

## **With effect from 27 September 2021**

### **Safe Management Measures for Marriage Solemnizations and Wedding Receptions**

These Safe Management Measures aim to provide a safe environment for wedding couples and their guests during marriage solemnizations and wedding receptions.

Organisers (which could include venue operators/owners<sup>1</sup>, wedding planners, the wedding couple and/or their relatives/friends) responsible for supplying or procuring the premises and any goods and services related to the solemnization or wedding (whether or not for reward and whether jointly or otherwise) are required to put in place the following safe management measures.

### **This set of Safe Management Measures applies with effect from 27 September to 24 October 2021.**

From **Monday, 27 September 2021**, the safe management measures for marriage solemnizations and wedding receptions are updated with the following attendee limits (including Bride and Groom but excluding Solemnizer and vendors):

	<b>From 27 September to 24 October 2021</b>
<b>Marriage Solemnizations</b>	
Home	Up to 10 attendees
ROM/M Building	Up to 10 attendees
External venues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Up to 50 attendees (no Pre-Event Test (PET) requirement);</li><li>From 51 to 1,000 attendees, PET required for all attendees<sup>2</sup> unless the attendee is fully vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19<sup>3</sup>, or is a child aged 12 years or below;</li><li>Group size of up to 2 attendees</li></ul>
<b>Wedding Receptions</b>	
Home and ROM/M Building	Not allowed
External venues (Excluding Places of Worship)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Up to 250 attendees, with PET required for all attendees<sup>2</sup> unless the attendee is fully vaccinated or has recovered from COVID-19<sup>3</sup>, or is a child aged 12 years or below;</li><li>Group size of up to 5 attendees</li></ul>

<sup>1</sup> Includes the religious organisation if held in a place of worship.

<sup>2</sup> See para 3 for details on PET requirements. Where PET is required, it means that checks must be implemented to ensure that every attendee has a valid negative test result or is fully vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19 as indicated under Footnote 3.

<sup>3</sup> An individual is considered fully vaccinated if he/she has received the appropriate regimen of World Health Organisation's Emergency Use Listing (WHO EUL) vaccines including their respective duration post-vaccination for the vaccine to be fully effective, and had their vaccination records ingested in MOH's national IT systems. An individual who has recovered from COVID-19 should provide a valid PET exemption notice for the duration of the event.

## **1. Overview**

- 1.1. Prevailing rules will continue to apply to each entity/venue. Venue owners may determine if and when to allow marriage solemnizations and/or wedding receptions to be held in their premises, and may set additional conditions for their use, based on their capacity or ability to ensure safe management measures are implemented.
- 1.2. It is recommended that organisers appoint a Safe Management Officer to ensure that safe management measures are adhered to.
- 1.3. The Solemnizer will postpone the solemnization if safe management measures are not implemented or adhered to for the solemnization.
- 1.4. For external venues (excluding home, ROM/M Building and places of worship), organisers should prepare response plans to manage situations such as handling unwell attendees. This includes ensuring staff are familiar with the procedures in the handling of unwell and/or uncooperative attendees.
- 1.5. Each couple is only allowed one marriage solemnization (without food and beverage) and one wedding reception with respect to their marriage.<sup>4</sup> Each event must be completed within the same calendar day, although the marriage solemnization and the wedding reception may be held on separate days.
- 1.6. Each event can only be held in a single venue managed by the same operator. The event may take place over multiple rooms within the same venue.
- 1.7. In a place of residence, only marriage solemnizations are allowed, and not wedding receptions.

## **2. Limits on Number of Attendees**

- 2.1. **From 27 September to 24 October 2021**, the maximum number of attendees in total for the entire solemnization event held in an external venue must not exceed:
  - (i) 50 attendees (no PET requirement); or
  - (ii) 1,000 attendees with PET required for all attendees unless the attendee is fully vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19, or is a child aged 12 years or below.
- 2.2. Children aged 12 years and below (i.e. born in and after 2009), who are currently not eligible for vaccinations under the National Vaccination Programme, must not make up more than 20% of the overall attendees. This applies to marriage solemnizations with more than 50 attendees or wedding receptions (regardless of the number of attendees). These children seated within the groups of 2 attendees (for marriage solemnization) or 5 attendees (for wedding reception) must be from the same household.
- 2.3. Wedding receptions can only be held at an external venue (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building, a place of residence or a place of worship), and the maximum number of attendees in total for the entire wedding reception must not exceed 250 attendees (with PET required for all attendees unless the

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<sup>4</sup> If organizers intend to hold separate solemnization and wedding reception events at the same venue, you are advised to have a reasonably long break between the two events. This will provide time to vacate and sanitise the venue after the first event and will also prevent interactions between the two sets of attendees who are leaving or entering the venue.

attendee is fully vaccinated or recovered from COVID-19 , or is a child aged 12 years or below).

- 2.4. The maximum number of attendees may be lower than the limits above, depending on venue capacity, safe distancing measures and/or other factors to be determined by the venue owner/operator or organisers.
- 2.5. The maximum number of attendees includes the couple and guests but excludes the Solemnizer, vendors and venue staff engaged to provide authorised services for the event. Vendors and venue staff should be kept to the minimum required.
- 2.6. If the total number of attendees at either the marriage solemnization or wedding reception exceeds 50 attendees, attendees must be split into either multiple zones of up to 50 attendees, or across staggered timings with up to 50 attendees in each slot and at least 30 minutes between slots. The caps include the couple and the wedding party, and excludes the Solemnizer (for solemnization), vendors and venue staff engaged to provide authorised services for the event. Vendors and venue staff should be kept to the minimum required.
- 2.7. For marriage solemnizations held in a place of residence, the maximum number of attendees for the home solemnization must not exceed 10 attendees (including the couple, not counting the Solemnizer and vendors engaged to provide authorised services for the solemnization).<sup>5 6</sup> Vendors should be kept to the minimum required. Organisers should ensure that residents who are not attending the home solemnization do not physically interact or intermingle with the attendees at the solemnization.
- 2.8. For all marriage solemnizations, couples are to provide their guest and vendor list to the Solemnizer at least one day before the solemnization.
- 2.9. The guest list for marriage solemnizations and wedding receptions should be made available onsite for verification/checking.

### **3. Pre-Event Test (PET) Requirements**

- 3.1. A Pre-Event Test refers to a COVID-19 test taken by an attendee who wishes to enter a venue where selected events such as solemnizations or wedding receptions are being held. This attendee must have a valid negative COVID-19 test result<sup>7</sup> before being allowed to enter the venue.
- 3.2. Exemptions from PET:
  - (i) Individuals who have been fully vaccinated or have recovered from COVID-19.
  - (ii) Children aged 12 years and below, who are not eligible for vaccines currently under the National Vaccination Programme, are also exempt from PET (subject to an overall attendance cap of 20% of total attendees).
- 3.3. Where PET is required, the venue owner/operator or organisers of the event are required to check that the relevant attendees (in line with paras

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<sup>5</sup> For example, if there are 6 attendees currently living in your household, the 6 residents and an additional 4 visitors can attend a marriage solemnization in your home, i.e. total of 10 attendees.

<sup>6</sup> An individual must not permit to enter or remain in his or her place of residence more than 2 visitors on any single day. An exception is made for home solemnizations which remain subject to the limits in paragraph 2.7. However, if a place of residence has 2 or more visitors attending a home solemnization (as attendees or vendors), then the household must not accept any more visitors that day to their place of residence.

<sup>7</sup> The validity of a negative COVID-19 test result is 24 hours from the time an individual is registered in-person at the testing premises.

- 2.1 and 2.3) have tested negative for COVID-19 or have exemptions from PET before allowing them entry to or remain in the event venue to attend the marriage solemnization or wedding reception.
- 3.4. For marriage solemnizations involving between 51 to 1,000 attendees, PET is required for **all attendees (including the wedding couple)**<sup>8</sup>.
- 3.5. For wedding receptions involving up to 250 attendees, PET is required for **all attendees (including the wedding couple)**.
- 3.6. Where applicable (see paras 3.1. and 3.2.), organisers must ensure that attendees get tested:
- (i) Before entry to the solemnization or wedding reception; and
  - (ii) At most 24 hours before the end of the event.
- 3.7. More details on PET requirements are available at <https://go.gov.sg/pet>.

#### **4. Group Size and Safe Distancing**

- 4.1. For marriage solemnizations or wedding receptions held at external venues (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building or a place of residence), attendees must be split into the following fixed groups, with no intermingling or mixing between groups:
- (i) Group size up to 2 attendees for marriage solemnization
  - (ii) Group size up to 5 attendees for wedding reception. This is a special exemption for wedding receptions to allow larger groups including members of the same household to be seated together for the reception.
- 4.2. An exception may be made for a designated core “wedding party” comprising up to 20 attendees (including the bride and groom), which is part of the overall attendee cap for marriage solemnizations/wedding receptions and as detailed below:

	<b>Attendee Limit</b>	<b>Wedding Party</b>
<b>Solemnization Events</b>	Up to 50 attendees	20 attendees
<b>Solemnization Events</b>	More than 50 attendees	20 attendees, and if there are children aged 12 and below:
<b>Wedding Receptions</b>	Up to 250 attendees	a) these children must be from the same household; and b) the number must be restricted to 5

- 4.3. Individuals in this wedding party may interact with one another within the party and may sit with one another at tables of more than 5 attendees during the wedding reception. However, they must not intermingle or mix with other attendees outside the wedding party.
- 4.4. At least 1m safe distancing must be observed between groups, as well as between the “wedding party” and other groups, at all times, including for photo-taking.

#### **5. Use of Face Masks**

- 5.1. Organisers must ensure that attendees are wearing face masks in accordance with the prevailing national policy, with the exception of the bride

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<sup>8</sup> Wedding couples need not have the same number of attendees for both their solemnizations and wedding receptions, e.g. they can have a solemnization with 500 attendees and a wedding reception with 250 attendees.

and groom who may wear face shields during the course of the event instead. The bride and groom may also remove their face shield or mask for key moments (e.g. when exchanging vows or rings, kiss, march-in/out) as long as they maintain a safe distance of at least 2 meters from others at such times.

- 5.2. All other attendees must wear their masks at all times. Masks may be removed momentarily for photo-taking, and must be worn immediately after the photos are taken. The safe distancing requirements must be observed at all times.

## **6. Zoning Requirements**

- 6.1. For marriage solemnizations or wedding receptions held in external venues (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building or a place of residence), the maximum number of attendees in each zone must not exceed a total of 50 attendees.
- 6.2. All attendees, including the couple and wedding party, must only be assigned to one zone each. Entering an unassigned zone is not allowed, except for the wedding couple who may do so briefly, e.g. to take photos. Service staff and vendors may also cross between zones as necessary to perform their jobs.
- 6.3. Zones must be completely separated from one another by either a physical solid partition (at least 1.8m high, from wall to wall); or at least 3m physical spacing demarcated by continuous physical barriers (e.g. formed by plexiglass screens, barricade tape, queue pole stands linked by retractable belts).
- 6.4. There must either be a separate ingress/egress for each zone or staggered entrance/exit timings so that attendees from different zones do not mix with one another during entry/exit (including any movements in and out of the venue during the event).
- 6.5. Where possible, service staff should be designated to specific zones and avoid mixing with staff serving other zones.

## **7. Staggered Timing Requirements**

- 7.1. For a wedding reception held in an external venue (i.e. outside the ROM/M Building, a place of worship or a place of residence), the maximum number of attendees for each time slot must not exceed a total of 50 attendees.
- 7.2. Attendees must be assigned to one time slot and can only be present during their scheduled time slot. They must leave by the end of their time slot.
- 7.3. An exception may be made for a designated core “wedding party” comprising up to 20 attendees (including the bride and groom), which is part of the overall attendee cap of 250 attendees for wedding receptions. The wedding party may participate in multiple time slots, whereas all other attendees must only belong to one time slot, so long as the number of people in that time slot remains capped at 50 attendees (including the wedding party)<sup>9</sup>.
- 7.4. There must be a minimum of 30 minutes between time slots, where cleaning and disinfection at the event space and other common areas (e.g. toilets) must be conducted.

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<sup>9</sup> For example, attendees can be distributed across three time slots as follows - 30 pax : 30 pax : 20 pax with the wedding party of 20 attendees present during all three slots for a total of 100 unique attendees.

## **8. Venue Set-up**

- 8.1. The venue should be set up to ensure that the attendance limit requirements and safe distancing requirements (e.g. between different vendors and between vendors and attendees) are adhered to at all times.
- 8.2. There should be fixed seating for all attendees.

## **9. Management of Common Facilities**

- 9.1. Organisers should put in place measures to minimise crowding or mixing at common facilities, e.g. corridors, toilets. Where possible, specific common facilities should be designated so that attendees from different events held at the same premises do not mix when using such facilities.
- 9.2. Where possible, organisers should identify hotspots, e.g. entry/exit points, washrooms, corridors, etc., for potential bunching and implement a control mechanism to prevent/disperse crowding or compromise of safe distancing. This could include the deployment of ushers or Safety Ambassadors to remind attendees against clustering and loitering in common areas.
- 9.3. Premises hosting multiple events concurrently should put in place measures to ensure no inter-mixing between attendees of different events.

## **10. Food and Beverage**

- 10.1. Food and beverage must not be served at marriage solemnizations.
- 10.2. At wedding receptions, self-service buffets or staff-served food lines are not allowed. Food and beverage must be served to seated attendees. Sharing dishes/platters are strongly discouraged. Attendees should not share cups/cutlery/utensils. No sale or consumption of alcohol is allowed after 10.30pm.

## **11. Live Performances and other high-risk activities**

- 11.1. Live instrumental music is allowed (except for the playing of wind instruments), with the necessary safe management measures in place only for marriage solemnizations in a place of residence and indoor venues (except at ROM/M Building). Musicians should be kept to the minimum and must be masked at all times. Musicians should also minimise movement to ensure that safe distancing can be adhered to at all times.
- 11.2. Live performances remain disallowed at solemnizations in outdoor venues, i.e. places which are not enclosed, and at wedding receptions.
- 11.3. Activities involving singing, wind instruments, dancing or loud talking/shouting remain disallowed at all events at all venues.

## **12. Attendance Control and Contact Tracing**

- 12.1. Organisers should conduct checks on visible symptoms for customers at entrances, and turn away those who appear unwell.
- 12.2. All attendees must check in to the event using TraceTogether-only SafeEntry.<sup>10</sup> The venue owner/operator or organisers should have a unique QR code for the event space, e.g. hotel ballroom or private room in a restaurant.

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<sup>10</sup> Refer to <https://www.gobusiness.gov.sg/safemanagement/safeentry/> for details.

- 12.3. Organisers are encouraged to stagger the arrival and departure timings of attendees. Queuing in groups should be discouraged.
- 12.4. Organisers are encouraged to adopt contactless modes of operation where possible, e.g. putting the seating arrangements online or on a board instead of a manned reception counter to minimise contact between individuals.

### **13. Ensuring Cleanliness and Hygiene**

- 13.1. Before the start of each time slot and where applicable, the venue owner/operator or organisers must clean and disinfect the event spaces, common facilities (e.g. toilets), tables and chairs before and after use, including high-touch surfaces such as handrails, door handles, lift buttons, etc.
- 13.2. Where applicable, the venue owner/operator or organisers should provide disinfecting agents like hand sanitisers, disinfectant sprays, wipes, etc. for attendees and staff at common areas or areas with high-touch surfaces.