**Group:** All TPs (Except IHLs. IHLs circular will be sent through MOE/HEPD)

**Target Send Date:** 15 March 2022

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**15 March 2022**

**[SSG CIRCULAR/PPD/2022/Circular No. 4]:** **Advisory on the Updates to Workplace Requirements and Safe Management Measures effective from 15 March 2022**

Dear Training Providers,

This advisory informs Training Providers (TPs) on the revised workplace requirements and Safe Management Measures (SMMs) that will take effect from 15 March 2022, unless otherwise stated. This is for strict compliance by all TPs.

1. On 11 March 2022, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce (MTF) announced an update to healthcare protocols, workplace requirements, and SMMs. The MTF’s press release is attached [here](https://www.moh.gov.sg/news-highlights/details/resuming-our-transition-to-resilience).

**Workplace Measures**

**[New]** *Workplace Requirements*

1. The current posture of allowing up to 50% of employees who can work from home to return to the office will continue. As part of the streamlining of rules, **from 15 March 2022, workplace requirements will be aligned with those for the community SMMs**.
2. Workers who have their masks on will not need to maintain 1-metre safe distancing in the workplace (e.g. meeting rooms, workstations). However, there must still be 1-metre safe distancing between groups of up to 5 persons in mask-off settings (e.g. staff canteens, pantries). Social gatherings at workplaces with groups of up to 5 persons will be allowed to resume. There will be no restrictions on cross-deployment of employees across workplaces, although employers may continue to do so for business continuity reasons.
3. TPs should continue to check and adhere to [MOM’s prevailing SMMs requirements for the workplace](https://www.mom.gov.sg/covid-19).

*Rostered Routine Testing (RRT) Regime*

1. With effect from 18 February 2022, RRT has been streamlined to focus on sectors catering to vulnerable groups (i.e., healthcare sector, eldercare sector, and settings with children below 5 years old[[1]](#footnote-2)). As such, TPs are no longer required to perform RRT. However, TPs must continue to comply with all prevailing requirements for specific settings. We also urge individuals to continue to exercise personal responsibility and conduct regular self-testing, especially prior to visiting crowded places or interacting with vulnerable groups during this period. TPs that have remaining kits that were already distributed to them for RRT are strongly encouraged to continue testing until the test kits are fully utilised.

**Conditions for In-person Training**

**[New]** *Class Sizes*

1. All mask-on CET activities. **From 15 March 2022, the class size limit for mask-on classes will be lifted** for non-SSG-funded CET. However, **for SSG funded/supported-CET programmes,** **SSG’s prevailing guideline for a maximum class size of 40 persons – excluding the trainer(s) – for course quality reasons will continue to apply**. **Safe distancing is encouraged but is not required between individuals or groups.**
2. Indoor mask-off CET activities. In alignment with national guidelines, **indoor mask-off CET activities with** **no more than 30 persons, including the trainer(s), are allowed with VDS for all participants**. Such activities will not be allowed if there are any learners who are not fully vaccinated. Classes can be conducted in groups of no more than 5 persons. There should be no intermingling of groups throughout the activities. Masks should be put on immediately after the completion of CET activities. **Safe distancing will continue to be required.** There should be at least 1-metre distance between individuals, or if this is not possible, at least 1-metre distancing between groups.
3. Outdoor mask-off CET activities. TPs must continue to cap outdoor mask-off classes at no more than 50 persons, including the trainer(s). **For SSG funded/supported-CET programmes, SSG’s prevailing guideline for a maximum class size of 40 persons – excluding the trainer(s) – for course quality reasons will continue to apply**. Group work, if required, should be done in groups of not more than 5 persons, regardless of learners’ vaccination status. **Safe distancing will continue to be required.** There should be at least 1-metre distance between individuals, or if this is not possible, at least 1-metre distancing between groups.

*Meal Arrangements* *at CET venues*

1. To discourage unnecessary mask-off situations in class, TPs are not allowed to serve food and drinks during class (e.g. provision of drinks in dispensers). Learners should keep their masks on at all times where possible and are strongly discouraged from eating and drinking during class and in the training premises. During mealtimes between lessons, learners may pack their own food and consume their meals at designated dining venues[[2]](#footnote-3).
2. **[New]** In alignment with the allowance for social gatherings for groups of up to 5 persons in the workplace, **learners may gather in groups of 5 persons during mealtimes from 15 March 2022**. **Safe distancing will continue to be required.** There should be at least 1-metre distance between individuals, or if this is not possible, at least 1-metre distancing between the groups of no more than 5 persons. Learners should mask up when not consuming food and drinks and leave the dining premise after finishing their meals. Where possible, TPs should also implement staggered mealtimes across classes to reduce intermingling.

*Additional safe management measures*

1. TPs are also required to adhere to all prevailing guidelines for Sport or Physical Activity, Dance, Singing, Wind/Brass Instrument, Voice Training, Speech and Drama Classes:
   1. **All sports or physical activity classes, as well as outdoor dance classes**: refer to the Sport Singapore advisory, available at: <https://www.sportsingapore.gov.sg/Newsroom/Media-Releases>; and
   2. **Indoor dance classes, singing, wind/brass instrument classes, voice training, and speech and drama classes**: refer to the National Arts Council’s advisory, available at <https://www.nac.gov.sg/support/covid-19/safe-management-measures-smms>.

**General Safe Management Measures (SMMs)**

1. TPs should continue to abide by all SMMs for TPs as laid out in SSG’s advisories, as well as MOM’s guidelines on SMMs for the workplace. When in doubt, TPs should check [www.gov.sg/features/covid-19](http://www.gov.sg/features/covid-19) for updates and the latest advisories.

**For strict compliance by TPs**

1. TPs are required to strictly comply with national COVID-19 measures and all additional measures stipulated by SSG. Failure to comply may be taken as a violation of the COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Control Order) Regulations with its attendant penalties which include a fine not exceeding $10,000 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding 6 months, or both, for first time offenders. Higher penalties of a fine of up to $20,000, imprisonment of up to 12 months, or both, may apply for subsequent offences. TPs may also be subject to additional SSG actions, e.g., termination of registration status or suspension of SSG funding.
2. For any clarifications, you may contact SSG’s hotline at 6785 5785 or log a case via the Feedback Portal at <https://portal.ssg-wsg.gov.sg/feedback>.

1. This includes staff as well as third-party vendors in preschools, Early Intervention centres, and Private Education Institutions with children less than 5 years old. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. TPs should not use classrooms / training rooms as designated venues for meals if they are concurrently being used for training. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)