

# Coronavirus (COVID-19) Information about staying home and going out

Home Confinement, Movement and Gathering  
Public Health Direction



## Questions and answers about staying home and going out in Queensland

### Why are these changes necessary?

The Queensland Government has put in tighter restrictions on being at home to ensure everyone plays their part to protect themselves and the more vulnerable in our community from COVID-19, and to help slow the spread of the disease.

### What is a home?

This is the place where you normally live and sleep in, and includes single homes, townhouses, apartments, caravans, and structures on the same land such as granny flats or sheds.

A home is also a campus at a university, hostel or boarding house is considered one home, even if it has multiple individual rooms.

Homes are not workplaces such as office buildings, mine sites or factories.

### What is a household?

A household is the group of people who normally live together, including family and flatmates. It also includes people who live in multiple homes, due to kinship customs or cultural obligations.

A household may be two parents, two children and two grandparents who normally live together. Or a house or apartment with several flatmates sharing rooms.

### What is a principal place of residence?

If you live permanently in Queensland, your residence is where you normally reside. If you are living in Queensland temporarily, your residence is where you reside while in Queensland.

### How many people can live together?

There is no limit to how many people can live together, as long as this is your normal household.

#### Further information

visit [www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus)  
or call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84).



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### Can I leave my home?

Yes, you can leave your home to do essential activities such as shopping for food, visiting the doctor, exercising, or caring for a family member but this can only be done with:

- people who normally live with you OR
- with one person who does not live with you OR
- with more than one person only if you need physical assistance from more than one carer.

Remember: We encourage you to stay at home, unless it is absolutely necessary to go out. If you do leave home, you should practice social distancing (by staying 1.5m apart) and use good hygiene practices to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

### Are there any exceptions to this?

Yes. You can attend funerals with up to 10 mourners or weddings with up to 5 people including the couple, the celebrant and witnesses.

If you are a person with a disability, you can require assistance from more than one carer. There should only be one person per 4 square metres in attendance, and people should practice social distancing of 1.5 metres.

### What if I need to go somewhere that has more than two people?

There are times you may need to visit places that have more than two people such as:

- essential workplaces, where you cannot work from home
- health care settings for those people requiring care
- pharmacies
- food shops
- schools and universities, where you cannot study from home
- public transport and airports.

Make sure you practice social distancing (by staying 1.5m apart) and good hygiene to help stop the spread of COVID-19.

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### What is an essential good or service?

Essential goods and services provide the necessities of life and operation of our society. Examples of essential goods include food and other grocery necessities, fuel, medical supplies, energy, internet and communications, waste, recycling and other goods.

Examples of essential services include social services, employment services, domestic and family violence and child protection services, mental health services, services provided to victims, donating blood, healthcare, education and childcare, finance, legal and insurance services and other government services.

Non-essential goods and services are listed under the Non-essential business, activity and undertaking Closure Direction (No.5).

### If my work is listed as non-essential can I still go to work?

Yes, if your work is listed in the [Non-essential business, activity and undertaking Closure Direction](#) you can leave your house to work if it cannot be done at home.

This includes a tradesperson visiting a house to do repairs, a nanny, or a cleaner.

Other non-essential businesses that may require you to attend work include hairdressers, food outlets, and bottle shops.

### Are there any other restrictions on work?

You should check the other Public Health Directions as they may contain specific work-related directions. For example, the Border Restrictions Direction (No.4) contains rules for FIFO workers.

### Can I pick up takeaway food, groceries or coffee?

Yes, however you should spend as little time as possible in these places, and always follow social distancing rules. Don't stop to eat or drink at food outlets or cafés—take your food home.

### What if I'm a person who needs physical assistance?

If you are a person who needs physical assistance you can have carers in your home to assist you, or you can be accompanied by one or more carers to leave your home as needed, such as to the shops or medical appointments.

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### How many people can visit my home?

You can only have up to two visitors at any one time at your home. These visitors should only be family members or close friends and be restricted to only necessary visits. The two visitors are in addition to the people who usually live in your household.

They are also in addition to workers such as tradespeople, nannies or cleaners who may be working at your house.

### What if I live in on a campus at a university, hostel or boarding house?

The same rules apply. You can have up to two visitors at any one time at the campus, hostel or boarding house. These visitors should only be family members or close friends. The two visitors are in addition to the people who usually live at the campus, hostel or boarding house.

For example, if there are multiple people living at your home, you can't all have visitors at the same time. You will need to organise different visitors times with other household members. You can never have more than two visitors in your room at the same time.

### What if I want to celebrate events such as birthdays?

You cannot have gatherings of people at your home or outside of your home. You can have up to two visitors at any one time to your home. If you go outside it should only be for the reasons allowed.

This means no house parties, large dinner parties or big barbecues. You could instead look at ways to connect and celebrate with people online (for example through live video catch-ups).

### Are there penalties if I don't comply?

Yes. If you don't comply you may be fined up to \$1,330 for individuals and \$6,670 for corporations under the *Public Health Act 2005*.

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