15 August 2021 Public health alert: ACT now a COVID-19 Hotspot; NSW Border Zone Restrictions Increase

From 1am Saturday 14 August 2021, the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) is a COVID-19 hotspot. Victoria and New South Wales (NSW) continue to be COVID-19 hotspots. You should not travel to these areas. The rules for people living in the NSW border zone have increased.

Entering Queensland
You cannot enter Queensland from a COVID-19 hotspot unless you are returning home or have a special exemption. Anyone allowed to enter Queensland from a COVID-19 hotspot will be directed to complete 14 days in hotel quarantine. You will have to pay for it yourself.

NSW Border Zone
From 8pm, Saturday 14 August 2021 if you are a New South Wales border zone resident, you can only enter Queensland for essential goods and services that you cannot get in NSW. You must follow the same rules as those required for current NSW lockdown (stay at home) zones. To enter Queensland for essential goods and services, you must have a Queensland Entry Pass. You cannot enter Queensland to attend a wedding, funeral, sporting events, exercise, or for any other recreational purpose such as holidays.

If you go outside of the NSW border zone to another location in NSW or another place that is a COVID-19 hotspot, you will not be allowed to re-enter Queensland. You will need to follow the same rules as people who have been to a COVID-19 hotspot.

Stay COVID safe by getting tested

Queensland Health is asking ALL people in Queensland experiencing any COVID-19 symptoms, especially if they have recently returned from New South Wales, Victoria and ACT, to immediately get tested and isolate until they receive a negative result. If you have also been in contact with someone who have recently been to any of these areas, you should monitor for any symptoms and get tested. Information about COVID-19 symptoms can be found here: conditions.health.qld.gov.au/HealthCondition/condition/14/217/838/novel-coronavirus.

It is important you get tested and isolate until you receive your results to help prevent transmission to others in the community. Getting infected with COVID-19 from someone in your community can happen very fast.

You can get tested for free at a Queensland Health fever clinic, or at a local respiratory clinic. You can find your closest COVID-19 testing location here: www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/testing-and-fever-clinics. Or you can call 134 COVID (call 13 42 68) to find out where to go. If you need an interpreter, ask for one when you call. It is free.

If you are finding it hard to cope with the COVID-19 situation, phone Multicultural Connect on 1300 079 020. Ask for an interpreter if you need language support.

You can also find more detail at [www.health.qld.gov.au](http://www.health.qld.gov.au).