

# Unite against COVID-19



## Update on COVID-19 directions in Queensland

Information current as at 18 January 2022. Always refer to Queensland Health for the latest information.

Department of Communities, Housing and Digital Economy

### Queensland border change

From 1am AEST Saturday **15 January 2022**, domestic border restrictions for people entering from interstate are no longer in place. You can enter Queensland from elsewhere in Australia without restrictions.

Restrictions may apply if you have been [overseas](#) in the last 14 days and you did not enter in a quarantine free flight from a safe travel country. For more information visit the [Queensland Government website](#).

### Testing requirements

From 6 January 2022, the Queensland Government has made changes to [COVID-19 testing requirements](#).

The below table provides Queensland Government advice on which test to use:

Rapid Antigen Test (RAT)	Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) test
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If you have COVID-19 symptoms</li><li>If you find out that you are a close contact or that you have been around someone with COVID-19 or</li><li>If you need a negative test to leave home quarantine (e.g., as a close contact or an overseas traveler).</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>If you have COVID-19 symptoms and cannot get a RAT</li><li>If you are a close contact and you cannot get a RAT</li><li>If you need a COVID-19 test to leave home quarantine and you cannot get a RAT.</li></ul>

You no longer need a PCR test to confirm a positive [RAT](#). See what you can do be [COVID-Ready](#)

More information on testing and fever clinics is available [here](#).

Following [National Cabinet advice on 13 January 2022](#) regarding the importance of keeping critical sectors open, the department has been advised that Queensland Health in consultation with other government agencies is considering potential amendments to a number of Chief Health Officer Directions.

Providers are encouraged to regularly review the [Chief Health Officer public health directions](#) for the most up to date Queensland Health advice.

### Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

The purchase of PPE and RATs is allowable program expenditure and should be purchased by providers. Please notify your Contract Officer if your organisation is unable to source a supply of PPE or RATs needed for the delivery of housing and homelessness services.

The department is actively working with other agencies to source a supply of RATs as part of a cross-government procurement and will provide further advice once the outcome is confirmed.

#### RAT kits for concession card holders

On 6 January 2022, the Australian Government announced that concession card holders will be able to access up to 10 free RAT kits over the course of three months, at a maximum of five in a single month.

The tests will be free for people who hold a:

- Pension concession card

- Commonwealth seniors' healthcare card
- DVA gold, white or orange card
- Health care card
- Low income card

Once available, concession card holders will be able to get these free tests at pharmacies.

Providers are encouraged to support concession card holders accessing their services to access free tests where available. More information is available on the [Queensland Government website](#).

## Positive COVID-19 test result

The health and safety of service provider staff, customers and tenants is of the highest priority. Following the advice and direction of Queensland Health is important to support this. Regular monitoring of Queensland Health advice will help keep providers informed of any changes or new information.

If your organisation becomes aware of a staff member or client with a positive COVID-19 test result or a close contact, please follow [Queensland Health advice](#) and call 13 HEALTH (13 43 25 84).

For funded housing and homelessness services providers, if your organisation has a staff member or client with a positive COVID-19 test result, and or any impact to service delivery, you must **notify us immediately** by contacting your Contract Officer or Regional Director. Additionally, a **COVID-19 Incident – Notification by Funded Providers Form** needs to be completed (refer attached).

The department will work with the impacted provider and other providers to support local service continuity.

### If you are unable to isolate at home

You may not be able to isolate at home if you:

- are travelling and don't have a home in Queensland
- live in share-house
- live with vulnerable or elderly people that you need to can't live with while you have COVID-19.

If you need help finding suitable accommodation, please call 134 COVID ([134 268](#)).

For more information visit: <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/i-have-covid/home-isolation>

### Contact tracing (exposure sites) and changes to confirmed cases and close contacts

From 31 December 2021, Queensland Health will only notify of major outbreak venues or super-spreader events in Queensland. Information is available on the [Queensland Health website](#).

### What to do if you have COVID-19

Information on what to do if you have COVID-19 is available on the [Queensland Health website](#).

## Further information

### Boosters

Information on COVID-19 booster doses is available on the Queensland Health Website: [Boosters - COVID-19 | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)

### COVID-19 vaccination for children and young people

From 10 January 2022, children aged five to 11 are now eligible for the Pfizer (Comirnaty) COVID-19 vaccine. More information is available on the [Queensland Health website](#).

### Asset Library

The [Queensland Health asset library](#) houses a range of collateral that you are welcome to use. Information will be regularly updated, and new resources will be added as they are produced.