

COVID-19 Update 24 July 2021

Dear ACG,

Further updates have been made today to include a class exemption for farmers and agribusiness workers. We will keep you informed as further information becomes available and is published to the web.

If you require further information, please contact DAF by email: info@daf.qld.gov.au or call 13 25 23.

Class exemption

A new class exemption has been granted by the Chief Health Officer for farmers and agribusiness workers to move across the Queensland border until **11:59pm 20 August 2021** (see attached letter).

The class exemption is only for movement associated with performing essential agribusiness services for the agriculture supply chain or farming activities, including the care of livestock.

Anyone who has travelled into Greater Sydney in the last 14 days cannot use the class exemption to enter Queensland—they will need to apply for exemption as a specialist worker.

Also, the class exemption does not apply to anyone who has been to an interstate exposure site, is a close contact, has had known contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case, or has COVID-19 symptoms (unless cleared by a medical practitioner or provides a negative COVID-19 test no greater than 3 days prior to travel).

The class exemption has been provided on the basis of managing risk of the spread of COVID-19 in the community. Each farmer or worker must review the hotspot declarations in place at the time of their entry to Queensland to determine if they are subject to further requirements or obligations.

There are conditions (refer to the full details in the class exemption letter):

- A Quarantine Management Plan must be available (including wearing masks, use of the Check In Qld app and records of movements that can be provided on request).
- Travel directly to and from a relevant farm and stop only for rest stop facilities, fuel and activities directly related to their agribusiness activity, or to manage fatigue.
- A person must only remain in Queensland for the time necessary to perform the essential work and must remain isolated to the extent reasonably practicable from others until departure or for 14 days (whichever is shorter).

Crossing the border under the class exemption

You must:

- complete a Queensland border declaration pass
- carry a copy of the Chief Health Officer's class exemption letter
- provide evidence of your identity which confirms place of residence (e.g. a driver licence)
- provide evidence of your employment or contract, property ownership, lease or agistment arrangements
- provide information you have attempted to source the skills from a non-hotspot in another state or territory and that it has either been genuinely not possible to do so, or is cost or time-prohibitive.

From **30 July 2021** mandatory testing will be required and you must have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within the last 7 days, and maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle, and provide this evidence if requested.

Freight operators

You can continue to operate under the [QLD Freight Protocol](#).

[This table](#) provides an easy way to see what freight operators need to do for each situation.

From **1:00am 30 July 2021**, compliance with COVID-19 testing requirements will become mandatory. Until that time, freight and logistics operators should use their best endeavours to ensure voluntary compliance with these testing requirements to minimise the risk of spreading COVID-19. It is advisable to be tested before the 30 July to comply.

Additional obligations will be required for freight and logistics operators who have been in an [affected area](#).

Freight and logistics operators who have been in a [COVID-19 hotspot](#) in the last 14 days, or since the start date identified for the hotspot (whichever is shorter), prior to entering Queensland may only remain in Queensland for the time needed to complete their essential activity. Social and recreational activities are not permitted while an operator is in Queensland.

Further information

Further information about the Queensland border restrictions, including questions and answers, can be found on the web page, [travelling to Queensland](#).

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