

# High-risk or sensitive places

## *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019*

The *Medicines and Poisons Act 2019* (MPA) commenced on 27 September 2021. Under the MPA pest management technicians (PMTs) are required to hold endorsements for high risk and sensitive places. This fact sheet provides information to PMTs about endorsements for high-risk and sensitive places including requirements for obtaining such endorsements.

## High-risk and Sensitive places

PMTs carrying out pest management activities at high-risk or sensitive places must either hold an endorsement or be **supervised** by a PMT who holds the endorsement for supervising activities at these places.

The endorsements for high-risk or sensitive places are intended for experienced licensed PMTs who are required to:

- prepare Activity Risk Management Plans (ARMPs) to ensure pest management activities are carried out safely
- supervise other licensed PMTs carrying out pest control activities at high risk or sensitive places.

Pest management businesses may therefore have a limited number (appropriate for the size of the business) of experienced PMTs (licensed for more than **2 years**) with an endorsement for high-risk or sensitive places.

It is important to note that licenced PMTs **do not need to hold** the high-risk or sensitive place endorsements when undertaking pest management activities at high-risk or sensitive places if they:

1. follow an ARMP that has been prepared for the activity by a PMT who is endorsed; and
2. carry out the activity under the supervision of another PMT who is endorsed.

## Definitions

A **high risk place** is a place:

- Used for Intensive or high density livestock farming
- Is a food business accredited by Safe Food Queensland other than a meat retail business, or
- Is a wholesale food manufacturer (for example Tip Top Bakery)

A **sensitive place** is:

- A residential aged care facility
- A public hospital
- A licensed private hospital or private day hospital
- A primary or secondary school
- A kindergarten, pre-school, childcare or daycare centre operated by the Queensland Government or approved provider

Note that High-risk places relating to food processing are intended to capture those with a potential to affect a large number of people or with distribution over a large geographical area; it is not intended to capture small, local facilities.

See examples of high-risk and sensitive places in the table below:

Place type	Examples of high-risk and sensitive places	NOT considered as high-risk or sensitive places.
<b>High-risk – livestock farming</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Egg or meat poultry farms when in sheds or enclosures</li> <li>• Piggeries</li> <li>• Cattle or sheep feedlots</li> <li>• Dairy sheds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hobby farms</li> <li>• Small scale farms not operating on a commercial scale</li> <li>• Dairy or cattle operation in educational settings</li> </ul>
<b>High-risk – food processing and food manufacturing</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Canneries</li> <li>• Breweries</li> <li>• Large baked goods factories</li> <li>• Large food manufacturing incl frozen food</li> <li>• Produce packing sheds</li> <li>• Wholesale fish markets</li> <li>• Facilities where unpackaged raw food products are handled (distribution centres for supermarkets)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Retail food outlets: Cafés, bars and restaurants</li> <li>• Supermarkets</li> <li>• Micro-breweries</li> <li>• Small, local food manufacturing such as small batch jams, biscuits (type home-based businesses)</li> <li>• Petfood manufacturing</li> </ul>
<b>Sensitive places</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nursing homes</li> <li>• Primary/secondary schools</li> <li>• Childcare/daycare centres and kindergartens</li> <li>• Hospitals with inpatient service</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• TAFE or universities</li> <li>• Government agencies</li> <li>• Dentists' or doctors' surgeries</li> <li>• Diagnostic facilities (x-ray, pathology or radiology services)</li> </ul>

**Supervision** of PMTs carrying out pest management activities at high-risk or sensitive places does not have to be onsite directly, PMTs can be supervised by using an electronic communications device e.g. phone, two-way radio.

**Activity Risk Management Plans (ARMPs)** are intended to assist in identifying and managing known and foreseeable risks associated with pest management activities at high-risk or sensitive places. ARMPs are also required for fumigation activities at any place.

Before carrying out a pest management activity at a high-risk or sensitive place PMTs must ensure:

1. an ARMP has been prepared for the activity at the place
2. the PMT who prepared the plan holds the endorsement for preparing ARMPs
3. they have the contact details of the PMT authorised to supervise the activity.

During the activity PMTs must follow the requirements of the ARMP and if necessary, contact the PMT who is endorsed to supervise pest management activities at high-risk or sensitive places, to seek clarification or advice on any issues the PMT is unsure of.

Templates supporting the preparation of ARMPs can be found at [Pest management application forms, templates and fees | Queensland Health](#).

## Applying for High-risk or Sensitive place endorsements

PMTs may apply for the endorsements using the [Application for a Pest Management Licence \(health.qld.gov.au\)](#). Applications for high-risk or sensitive places will need to include supporting evidence as outlined in the tables below and be accompanied by the applicable fee for amending a pest management licence.

### PMT endorsement requirements for high-risk or sensitive places

<b>Option 1</b>	<p>Provide copies of the Cert IV in Urban Pest Management competencies:</p> <p><b>For sensitive places</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CPPUPM4003 – Assess and advise on pest management options for sensitive operations; and</li><li>• CPPUPM4005 – Implement and monitor pest management plans for sensitive operations</li></ul> <p><b>For high-risk places</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CPPUPM4004 – Assess and advise on pest management options for complex operations; and</li><li>• CPPUPM4006 – Implement and monitor pest management plans for complex operations</li></ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>Provide copies of equivalent Cert III in Urban Pest Management competencies</p> <p>For sensitive or high-risk places</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• CPPPMT3002 – Assess, advise on options, and develop pest management plans for complex or high-risk operations; and</li><li>• CPPPMT3007 – Implement pest management plans for complex or high-risk operations; and</li><li>• CPPPMT3043 – Prepare and present pest management proposals for complex or high-risk operations</li></ul>
-----------------	--

## PMT endorsement requirements for high-risk or sensitive places

<b>Option 2</b>	<p>If employed by a pest management business – provide a letter from their employer advising that the licensed PMT holds the necessary knowledge and experience (licensed as a PMT for 2 or more years) to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prepare an Activity Risk Management Plan (ARMP) for high-Risk or Sensitive places; and</li><li>• Supervise other PMTs undertaking pest management activities at High-Risk or Sensitive places; and</li><li>• Provide <b>documentary evidence</b> of past pest management activities at high-risk or sensitive places e.g. pest advice notices and treatment records. <b>Five records in the last two years</b> for each endorsement being applied for.</li></ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <p>If a self-employed PMT (licensed as a PMT for 2 or more years) – provide <b>documentary evidence</b> of past pest management activities at high-risk or sensitive places e.g. pest advice notices and treatment records. <b>Five records in the last two years</b> for each endorsement being applied for.</p> <p>Documentary evidence must be sufficiently detailed to identify the licensed PMT (name or licence number) who carried out the activity. Acceptable evidence includes pest control advice notices and treatment records. Generic statements provided under a company name (e.g. invoices) may not be acceptable.</p> <p>* Please ensure each piece of evidence is highlighted as either a high-risk or sensitive place</p> <p>* For PMTs undertaking pest management activities in remote areas, consideration of experience requirements may be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.</p>
-----------------	---

The **Departmental Standard – Competency requirements for licensed technicians undertaking pest management activities with pesticides and fumigants** will be updated in the near future to include the Cert IV competency requirements for pest control activities in high-risk and sensitive places.

Additional supporting information and documents are available at the Queensland Health Pest Management webpage found at <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/licences/medicines-poisons/pest-management>, including factsheets, departmental standards, guidelines and application forms.

Queries about authorisations for pest management activities can be directed to the Environmental Hazards Unit by email to [DOH.PMT@health.qld.gov.au](mailto:DOH.PMT@health.qld.gov.au)