Questions and answers about Queensland border restrictions

I’m a Queensland resident. Can I return to Queensland?
Yes. You can only enter Queensland if you are a Queensland resident, cross-border resident or fall under an exempt person category.

If you have travelled overseas in the last 14 days you must self-quarantine or as directed by an Emergency Officer.

If you have been to a COVID-19 hotspot in the last 14 days you must self-quarantine for 14 days, or as directed by an Emergency Officer, unless your visit was for a permitted purpose.

You will be directed by an Emergency Officer as to where you must quarantine. This may be in your home or a hotel at your own expense.

All persons wanting to enter Queensland must apply for a Queensland Entry Pass.

I live just outside the Queensland border. Can I enter Queensland to visit family or friends?
The Direction permits people in border communities of New South Wales, South Australia and Northern Territory to cross the border for:

• work
• obtain essential medical treatment
• obtain life-preserving services
• visit a dying relative
• attend a funeral
• attend court or comply with a court order
• assist in a law enforcement investigation
• comply with child custody or voluntary parenting plans
• escape a risk of domestic and family violence or harm
**Who is an exempt person?**
People who fall under an ‘exempt persons’ category can enter Queensland. To make entry easier, you should apply for a Queensland Entry Pass before arrival. Please be prepared to provide evidence of your exempt person status at the border.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Categories of exempt persons</th>
<th>Examples of exempt persons</th>
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</table>
| National and State Security and Government employees | 1. Police, fire or emergency services personnel, and non-government aeromedical services  
2. On-duty military personnel  
3. On-duty Australian Federal Police or Australian Border Police  
4. A Federal, State or local government employee, worker or contractor who is required to return to Queensland to perform official duties in Queensland  
5. A Federal, State or local government elected representative who is travelling to Queensland to perform official duties in Queensland  
6. Consular employees |
| Health service workers | 7. Health practitioners requested by the Chief Health Officer to provide health services in Queensland  
8. A Queensland Ambulance Service employee, paramedic, an officer of St John Ambulance Australia, RACQ Lifeflight crew, Royal Flying Doctor Service crew or other aeromedical services crew who are providing medical care or transport to a patient in Queensland.  
9. A person who, in carrying out their duties, is responsible for providing health support services or for the maintenance, resupply or repair of health services infrastructure critical to Queensland. This includes Australian Red Cross Lifeblood. |
| Emergency services | 10. Anyone who provides emergency services, including:  
a) Queensland Ambulance Service;  
b) St John Ambulance Australia;  
c) Queensland Police Service;  
d) Fire and Emergency Services; and  
e) State Emergency Services. |
| Workers providing transport, freight and logistics | 11. Transport, freight or logistics workers providing bus services, taxi and ride share services, or who work in the transport or freight of goods (and related logistics). |
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**Border Restrictions Direction (No. 5)**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Categories of exempt persons</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>You must practise social distancing as much as possible, which means staying 1.5 metres apart and self-quarantining in your vehicle or accommodation.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>12. A ship’s crew carrying people or goods (and related logistics) You must practise social distancing as much as possible, which means keeping 1.5 metres apart and self-quarantining on-board your ship in port.</td>
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<td>13. Flight or maritime crew members who self-quarantine until departing Queensland on another flight or voyage.</td>
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**Workers with skills critical to maintaining key government services, industries or businesses and fly in fly out (FIFO) workers and seasonal workers who meet strict requirements**

|                             | 14. An essential worker in construction, maintenance, resupply or repair of infrastructure or services critical to Queensland. This includes telecommunications, data, water supply, sewerage, sanitation and waste and recycling management. |
|                             | 15. An employee in construction, commercial fishing, manufacturing, energy, agribusiness, ONLY where their employer has an approved plan to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 amongst its employees and the community. |
|                             | 16. An employee or contractor in the agriculture or commercial fishing industries, including seasonal workers, who can provide the following at the border: a letter of employment, details of accommodation in Queensland, evidence of everywhere they have worked and stayed in the last 14 days, and: |
|                             | - if the person has been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the last 14 days, evidence of where they person has self-quarantined, or where they will self-quarantine in Queensland; or |
|                             | - if the person has not been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the last 14 days, evidence they are entering Queensland to go directly to work. |
|                             | 17. Fly in fly out (FIFO) workers are only exempt if they can provide the name of their employer, evidence they are a FIFO worker, evidence they are entering Queensland to go directly to work, evidence of the location of their worksite or work camp and if they work in the resources sector they must be a critical resources employee. |
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Border Restrictions Direction (No. 5)

Categories of exempt persons | Examples of exempt persons
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Compassionate Grounds | 18. People entering Queensland to:
| • care for a dependent person including a person unable to care for themselves or a child under the age of 18
| • reside with a carer to receive care
| • obtain essential medical treatment
| • obtain life-preserving goods and services
| • escape injury or harm, like sexual, domestic or family violence
| • visit a dying relative
| • attend a funeral
| • return home from boarding school or student accommodation which has closed
| • comply with child access arrangements or voluntary parenting plans

Under the compulsion of the law | 19. People who need to:
| • attend court or comply with a court order
| • do something because they have to under a law or have been directed by a government agency
| • assist a law enforcement authority, like the police

What do I do if I do not qualify as an exempt person?
You may be able to apply for an exemption. You will need to obtain this exemption before you can enter Queensland.

You can request an exemption [here](#). You may need to provide evidence to support your request.

I've been overseas. Can I enter Queensland?
If you are not a Queensland resident, cross-border resident or do not fall under the exempt person category, you will not be allowed to enter Queensland.

If you are allowed to enter Queensland, you must [self-quarantine](#) for 14 days from the day you arrive from overseas.

I've been to a COVID-19 hotspot. Can I enter Queensland?
If you are a returning [Queensland resident](#), you will have to self-quarantine for 14 days, or as directed by an Emergency Officer, unless you were in the [COVID-19 hotspot](#) for an essential purpose and are entering Queensland for an essential purpose.
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You will be directed by an Emergency Officer as to where you must quarantine. This may be in your home or a hotel at your own expense.

If you are coming to work in Queensland in the agribusiness or commercial fishing industry including as a seasonal worker and you have been to a COVID-19 hotspot, you will have to self-quarantine for 14 days.

If you are a **border town resident**, you can enter Queensland without self-quarantining if you travelled to the COVID-19 hotspot, or are travelling to Queensland, to:

- work
- obtain essential medical treatment
- obtain life-preserving services
- visit a dying relative
- attend a funeral
- attend court or comply with a court order
- assist in a law enforcement investigation
- comply with child custody or voluntary parenting plans
- to escape a risk of domestic and family violence or harm

If you fall under one of the other **exempt persons** categories, you will not have to self-quarantine.

**Will I be able to transfer to another flight in Queensland?**
If a person is entering Queensland from another State or Territory by air in order to transfer to another flight, they are allowed to enter Queensland. However, they must remain in the airport until they transfer to another flight. They may be directed by the relevant authorities to self-quarantine in a hotel or another nominated premises, for example if a connecting flight is not available on the same day.

**Will freight and equipment be able to cross the border into Queensland?**
Yes. Workers providing transport, freight and logistics are exempt persons and can enter Queensland. This includes food, goods for health services and pharmacies, and retail goods including goods for grocery stores and petrol stations.
People working in transport and logistics must practise social distancing wherever possible, including maintaining a distance of at least 1.5 metres where practical and remain self-quarantined in their vehicle or accommodation.

**How will the border restrictions be enforced?**
Queensland Police and other Emergency Officers will be responsible for enforcing the measures under the *Public Health Act 2005*.

Existing compliance routines for essential services vehicle will remain in place to minimise disruption.

**I’m a FIFO worker who lives outside Queensland. Can I enter Queensland?**
Since 11.59pm Saturday 4 April 2020, only certain employees who live interstate and work in Queensland have been allowed to enter Queensland. FIFO workers for construction, commercial fishing, manufacturing, resources sector, energy or agribusiness companies are allowed to enter Queensland under certain conditions.

If you are a FIFO worker travelling to your worksite or work camp, you will need to provide the following information when you arrive in Queensland:
- the name of your employer
- evidence that you are a FIFO worker
- evidence that you are entering Queensland to go directly to work, and
- evidence of the location of the worksite or work camp.

Please speak to your employer about how you can provide this information.

If you are a FIFO worker for a resources sector company or service provider, you can only enter Queensland if you also provide evidence that you are a critical resources sector employee. Critical resources sector employees are those who are essential to the ongoing operation of a resource activity or the resource supply chain. There are [template applications on the health direction website](#) that your employer must complete, submit and be approved before you enter Queensland.

Restrictions about returning from overseas travel continue to apply.
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I’m a FIFO worker who lives and works inside Queensland. Does any of this apply to me?
FIFO workers who live and work in Queensland can continue to work in any FIFO roles in Queensland. However, like all Queensland residents, if you have travelled overseas in the last 14 days or visited a COVID-19 hotspot then you will need to self-quarantine for 14 days. Your employer is required to submit a health plan.

I employ FIFO workers. What do I need to do?
Employers of FIFO workers need to submit a health plan. The health plan must outline how the employer will conduct health screening, and manage and prevent any potential transmission at the worksite or in the community.

I am a Queensland resident and need to travel interstate for medical care/surgery. Will I need to quarantine for 14-days when I get home?
If you are a Queensland resident who has had to travel to New South Wales, South Australia or the Northern Territory for medical care, you will not need to self-quarantine when you return home, unless directed by an Emergency Officer.

I live interstate and need to travel to Queensland for medical care/surgery. Do I need to self-quarantine in Queensland before my surgery?
No. People traveling to Queensland for essential medical treatment can come to Queensland and do not need to self-quarantine, unless directed by an Emergency Officer.

If you travel by plane to Queensland from New South Wales, South Australia or the Northern Territory, you will need to provide information when you arrive, including:

- Queensland Entry Pass
- personal and contact details
- the address where they intend to stay in Queensland;
- information about where they have travelled in the last 30 days (including COVID-19 hotspots)
- any other information requested in an arrivals form

You will need to check if your home State or Territory has any border restrictions in place that will require you to self-quarantine when you arrive home.
What is a seasonal worker?

Under the [Seasonal Workers Health Management Plans Direction](https://www1.health.qld.gov.au/qa/hpa/covid19/seasonal-workers-health-management-plans-direction), a seasonal worker refers to:

- An employee or contractor who usually lives outside of Queensland who travels to, and stays within, Queensland to work in agribusiness or commercial fishing; or
- An employee or contractor who:
  - usually lives in Queensland who travels from place to place within Queensland to work in agribusiness or commercial fishing; and
  - does not return to their usual place of residence each day.
- For example, workers on broadacre or crop farms who travel from farm to farm harvesting or planting crops are seasonal workers.

Are international workers and backpackers considered to be seasonal workers?

Yes, if they are working in agriculture or commercial fisheries and travelling from place to place to attend work, they are seasonal workers.

What are the requirements for a seasonal worker entering Queensland?

To be able to enter Queensland for seasonal work you will need:

- a letter of employment in Queensland
- details of accommodation in Queensland
- evidence of everywhere you worked and stayed in the last 14 days
- if you have not been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the last 14 days, evidence that you are entering Queensland to go directly to work (for example, a confirmed start date in your employment letter; accommodation or transport booking to the town of employment)

If you have been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the last 14 days you will also have to provide either evidence of where you self-quarantined, or details of where you will self-quarantine in Queensland.

I am a seasonal worker. Do I need to self-quarantine upon entry?
Seasonal workers entering Queensland from interstate who have been in a declared COVID-19 hotspot at any time within the past 14 days must self-quarantine at their own expense for 14 days on arrival prior to commencing work.

Self-quarantine means staying in your hotel room or accommodation and not going to public places or accepting visitors.

Workers suspected of having breached self-quarantine requirements may have their visa cancelled, receive fines of up to $13,345 and incur other penalties.

I employ, house or transport seasonal agriculture or commercial fisheries workers. What do I need to do?

Employers, accommodation providers or private transporters of seasonal workers will need to submit a health plan. The health plan must outline how you will conduct health screening and manage and prevent any potential transmission at the worksite, accommodation facility, while transporting seasonal workers and in the community.