Questions and answers about staying home and going out in Queensland

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visit www.health.qld.gov.au/coronavirus
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What does the Direction mean?
Under the Home Confinement, Movement and Gathering Direction (No. 6), you can leave home for a
permitted purpose. This includes:
• to obtain food or essential goods and services
• receive medical treatment or health care services
• exercise
• visit another person’s house, as long as there are no more than five people who are not
ordinarily members of that household
• for recreation, if the recreation activities are being completed within a 150 km radius from
your home or for outback communities, within 500km of your home but only within the
outback
to do work or volunteering, or carry out or conduct an essential business, activity or undertaking
that cannot be done from home (this is any type of business, activity or undertaking that is not
prohibited under the latest ‘Non-Essential Business Activity and Undertaking Closure’ Direction)
• visit a terminally ill relative or attend a funeral, wedding, small religious ceremony or to
engage in private worship at a place of worship
• assist, care for or support immediate family members
• attend Court or comply with a Court order
• attend childcare
• attend community kindergarten, Prep, Years 1 through to Years 12 of schooling
• attend university or another educational institution if lessons cannot reasonably be received from home
• assist with an investigation by police or other law enforcement authority
• in a shared custody arrangement, take children from one parent’s home to the other parent’s home. All shared custody arrangements of children under 18 years of age, whether informal or court-ordered, can continue as normal
• to avoid illness, injury or the risk of harm including domestic and family violence
• to access support from a domestic and family violence support service
• to comply with directions of a government agency.

What has changed?
From 16 May 2020, you will be allowed to:
• have a maximum of five visitors to your home. The visitors can be from different households
• have a public gathering with a maximum of ten people including yourself, members of your household or others
• enjoy recreational activities, as long as you remain within 150km of home and do not enter the Outback or stay overnight. For Outback Queensland you may travel within 500km of home but only within the Outback. Because of the distance involved, people travelling for recreation in the Outback may stay overnight from their principal place of residence for multiple nights.

A recreational activity means an activity you do for fun, such as:
• going for a picnic as a household or as a group of up to ten people
• visiting a national park
• driving a car, riding a motorbike, jet ski, boat or other vehicle for pleasure
• teaching someone in your household how to drive
• shopping for a book, outfit or fishing gear
• dining at a café, restaurant or other venue where allowed.

Please refer to the Non-Essential Business Activity and Undertaking Closure Direction for a comprehensive list of the businesses, activities and undertakings that are allowed from 16 May 2020.

There are only small pockets of community transmission in Queensland, and these are well controlled. Travelling only within 150km, or 500km if you live in the Outback, generally means people stay within their region, reducing the risk of transmitting COVID-19 from one region to another.

Special consideration has been given to Outback Queensland during the easing of Queensland’s restrictions. Those living in Outback Queensland can now undertake recreational travel up to 500km within the Outback and up to 20 locals can dine in at cafes and restaurants. A local means a person
whose principal place of residence is in the Outback or a person who is performing work or volunteering in the Outback, for example a fly-in fly-out worker, seasonal worker, contractor or locum.

The quarantining requirements for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander areas that have been declared under the Commonwealth Biosecurity Act 2015 also remain in force. This means that the extra precautions under the Biosecurity Determination continue to apply in communities that are particularly vulnerable to COVID-19.

Questions about leaving your home and travelling

Can I drive to my holiday home and stay overnight in Stage 1?
No. During Stage 1, outside the Outback you are allowed to travel up to 150km for recreational day trips. This does not include staying overnight. Specific questions relating to the Outback are outlined below.

When will intrastate travel be allowed? / When will travel be allowed from SEQ to regional tourism communities like Cairns, Townsville and Whitsundays?
Decisions on travel within Queensland will occur at a later date once we can see the impact of easing restrictions.
It is critical to ensure that we are restricting travel, where possible, to reduce the spread of infection between communities and keep Queenslanders safe.
Stay within 150km of where you live for now, or 500km if you live in the Outback. If you do not live in the Outback, do not go to the Outback.

When will interstate travel be allowed? / When will the border between Qld and NSW be open? And other states and territories? / PM says he hopes interstate tourism will be back operating by the Winter school holidays – do you agree with this?
Decisions on increasing interstate travel will occur at a later date once we can see the impact of lifting restrictions.
It is critical to ensure that we are restricting travel, where possible, to reduce the spread of infection and keep our Queensland community safe.

When will international travel be allowed?
This will be determined by the Federal Government as they manage the international border.
Should I be limiting the time I spend out or can I spend the whole day away from home? For example, can I spend the whole day in the park?
Yes, you can spend the whole day out as long as you are following the guidelines within the Chief Health Officer’s Direction. We’re asking Queenslanders to practise social distancing, good hygiene and use common sense.

Is the distance restriction for recreational activities radial or by road?
The distance is calculated by radius, you can enjoy recreational activities within a 150km radius from your home.
However, for Outback Queensland you can travel 500km from home but you must stay within the Outback.

How is the 150km radius calculated when I’m travelling to an Island via boat?
The 150km radius is calculated from your place of residence to where you disembark the vessel on an island. The radius includes the distance travelled over water. Any additional distance travelled on the Island is not included in the calculation.

To ensure the residents of an island remain protected, it is also important you are only travelling to an island for a permitted purpose. Remember there are no camping or overnight stays allowed outside the Outback.

Why are these restrictions different to those in other states and territories?
The states and territories all have different considerations and are at different stages in their response to COVID-19.
It was agreed at National Cabinet that the states and territories are responsible for implementing and rolling back restrictions for their own states and territories.
It is because Queenslanders have understood and cooperated with our restrictions and directives so well that we can now look to start gradually easing restrictions within our state.

Is there a limit for how far I can travel within Queensland for an essential activity?
There is no limit on how far you can travel for an essential business, activity or undertaking that cannot be done from home (this is any type of business, activity or undertaking that is not prohibited under the latest Non-Essential Business Activity and Undertaking Closure Direction).
Can I leave my home to get work equipment (for example, some work boots or gloves)?
Yes. You can leave your home for goods or services that are essential and needed for work. But remember, practise social distancing by keeping two big steps away from each other, wash your hands regularly with soap and water or use alcohol-based sanitiser and stay home if you are sick.

I have a family member or friend who has been staying at my place for a few weeks and now is returning to their home in another State. Can I drive them to the airport?
Yes. You can take them to the airport.

Prior to the Direction taking effect, I was staying with family in another part of Queensland. I now need to return home but am unsure if I can return to my usual home?
If you are currently in another residence, you can return to your principal place of residence – the home where you usually live. You should practise social distancing when leaving your vehicle to get fuel or food.

I have a terminally ill relative in the hospital, can I leave my house to go and visit them?
Yes. You can visit a terminally ill relative in the hospital. There is no restriction on the distance that you can travel within Queensland to visit a terminally ill relative.

Anyone visiting a hospital needs to follow the Hospital Visitors Direction. You should practise social distancing if you are leaving your vehicle, such as at a petrol station.

I have a neighbour who needs help getting food from the supermarket as they are elderly and cannot make it to the store themselves. Can I go to the supermarket for them?
Yes. You can leave home for food or other essential goods for your neighbour.

It is important to remember to practice social distancing with another person, particularly vulnerable people, such as older people or those with compromised immune systems. If the person prefers, you could place the food at your neighbour’s front door so they can collect it, instead of going into their home.
Can I visit a parent, partner or friend that is more than 150km away? For example, I live in Mackay, my Mum lives in Ayr – can I visit her?
Yes, you can visit someone at their house even if they live further than a 150km radius from your home. The 150km limit only applies to recreational trips. However, when visiting someone you can only visit the household, you cannot go out into the community if it is more than 150kms from your principal place of residence.

Is the 150km/500km limit for recreational activities measured from my work or from my home, or both?
The limit is from your home and is only for recreational activities.

If you’re leaving your home for work or other essential reasons, there is no limit to how far you may travel.

If I go more than 150kms/500kms to visit a household, can I then go and do recreational activities there?
No. If you’re visiting another household you must go straight there if it is further than the recreational limit. You can’t all go to the park or the beach, even if you’re just going with your household or by yourself.

But if you’re sick, stay home. If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, go and get tested.

Can five people from the same household go outside with five people from another house (to the park, etc.)?
Yes, a maximum of 10 people can go outside together.

Can I access national parks and state forests with a motorbike, or other vehicle?
Yes, as long as you stay within the recreational limit from home you can ride your motorbike. There will be a gradual reopening of some areas in some national parks. To find out if your local national park is open and what type of activities you can undertake there, visit www.parks.des.qld.gov.au.

Do I still have to comply with the quarantining restrictions in remote Indigenous communities under the Biosecurity Determination if I want to travel for recreation 150km from my community?
Yes, if you are in a zone with travel restrictions under the Biosecurity Determination you must stay within that zone.
Under the new provisions, people are able to leave their home for any recreational purpose as long as it is within 150 kms of their home. However, the community entry restrictions and quarantining requirements still apply under the Commonwealth Government’s Biosecurity Determination.

This means that the extra precautions under the Biosecurity Determination continue to apply in communities that are particularly vulnerable to the virus. If your recreational activity, including fishing, or visiting a relative, takes you across the boundary of the Commonwealth Biosecurity ‘designated area’ that applies to your community, you will have to comply with the quarantining requirement when you return, unless you fall into an exempted category (for example, you are an essential worker in the community and have an approved biosecurity plan).

Travelling 150 kms on land may not take you across the boundary of the Biosecurity designated area that applies to your community. If you are in the far northern Cape York area, if you travel 150 kms on land for recreation purposes, you may not cross your Biosecurity boundary and this travel is allowable. But travelling 150 kms may take you across your Biosecurity boundary in other areas. For example, if you are on Palm Island, you cannot travel to Townsville for recreation because Palm Island’s Biosecurity boundary does not allow it.

You can access more information about the restrictions and quarantining requirements for remote Indigenous communities [here](#).

My child is returning to their university campus where they live during the university semester? Can I take them to the campus and then return home?
Yes. You can leave your home to take your child to the university campus and return to your home.

Can I supervise a learner driver’s driving hours?
Yes, you can supervise a learner driver from your household up to 150km from your home or within 500km in the Outback.

Can I leave my house to attend my hair or beauty therapy appointment?
Yes, you can go to a hair or beauty therapy appointment where the service is allowed, for example nails or waxing. It is recommended to refer to the [Non-essential Business, Activity and Undertaking Closure Direction](#) for the list of personal appearance services permitted in stage 1.

Who can attend school face-to-face?
All students from community kindergarten through to year 12 can attend school in person from Monday 25 May 2020.
Do I continue to work from home, or am I allowed to go back to work at the office?
If your employer supports you working from home, we recommend you continue to do so. If you choose to return to the office, your employer might consider staggering rostered shifts to support physical distancing and hygiene requirements.

Should I attend my university/TAFE/technical classes in person?
Where possible, those students who have hands-on and/or skills-based learning for example laboratories, kitchens or workshops, can attend classes face-to-face, ensuring social distancing is observed. Please refer to your place of learning for more information about classes.

Questions about home confinement and visitors

Who is a member of my household?
Members of your household are the people who ordinarily reside in your home.

Do children count in the limits on number of people?
Children and infants are included in the total numbers where limits are indicated.

How many visitors can I have at my house, at any one time?
From 16 May, you can have a maximum of five people visit your home. Those five people can be from up to five different households.

Visitors do not include:
- people who live with you
- workers or volunteers providing goods or services, such as disability services or tradesperson doing repairs.

You and your visitors should still practise social distancing as much as you can. This means:
- keep at least 1.5 metres away from other people (two big steps)
- wash your hands regularly with soap and water or use alcohol-based sanitiser
- avoid hugs, kisses and handshakes.

Can you have many visits throughout the day, if it’s limited to a maximum of five people per visit?
Yes, there is no limit to the number of visits you can accept in a day. But we want to remind Queenslanders that limited contact with other people is one of the best ways to slow the spread of COVID-19. Always practice social distancing, even when you’re visiting another household so keep two big steps away from other people and avoid hugs, kisses and handshakes.

But if you’re sick, stay home. If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, go and get tested.
Why can I only have five visitors at home, but I can get together with nine other people outdoors?
COVID-19 is more easily transmitted in a confined space (like your home) compared to an open space with consistent air flow. The five people is in addition to the members of your household who ordinarily reside in the house.

Can I have people come to my home to help me or complete repairs?
Yes. You may have a worker or volunteer come to your house, such as a tradesperson, to help you or complete repairs on your home. Volunteers and workers are not counted as visitors. Practise social distancing and good hygiene as much as you can.

Can I hug or kiss the person I am visiting?
Only if you live in the same house with them. We know it’s really tough but limiting contact with other people is one of the best ways to slow the spread of COVID-19. Always practice social distancing, even when you’re visiting another household so keep two big steps away from other people and avoid hugs, kisses and handshakes.

But if you’re sick, stay home. If you have any COVID-19 symptoms, go and get tested.

I run a childcare service at home. Can I look after more than five children a day?
Yes. If you are a childcare provider operating a business from where you usually live, you can have more than five visitors to your home for the purposes of conducting your business.

Questions about gatherings

How many people can I have at a wedding?
Weddings can have a maximum attendance of 10 guests in addition to the celebrant and the couple with social distancing and hygiene requirements in place. It is important, if you are unwell, that you do not go to a wedding.

How many people can I have at a funeral?
Funerals may be attended by a maximum of 20 mourners in addition to up to three funeral officials if the funeral is indoors, and a maximum of 30 mourners in addition to up to three funeral officials if the funeral is held outdoors. It is important to note that outdoor guests cannot be in addition to indoor guests.
The social distancing and hygiene requirements must be observed. Queensland can provide exemptions in relation to attendance at funerals, but only at the margin. It is important that, if you are unwell, you do not go to the funeral.

**Can I attend a religious service?**
Private worship and small religious ceremonies of up to 10 people is allowed, with social distancing observed. However, larger celebrations are not yet permitted and are still to be live streamed.

**Why are funeral numbers different to wedding numbers?**
Weddings are a beautiful cause for celebration and it’s natural for couples to want as many of their loved ones to attend as possible. However, funerals are an important part of the grieving process and often help to provide a sense of closure. Unlike weddings, funerals cannot be postponed.

**Can 400 people be in one park if it is 40 groups of 10?**
Gatherings in public spaces must be limited to a maximum of 10 people within one group. You are not permitted to organise mass gatherings in a public space.

We also still encourage you to use common sense when attending small public gatherings and if a park, or any other outdoor public space is over-crowded, go somewhere else for the time being.

We ask that Queenslanders use common sense and good judgement, including maintaining plenty of distance between groups. Things to think about when deciding if a park is already too crowded include:
- Is there plenty of distance between each group (can you play ball between each group; can you talk easily without overhearing another group)?
- Is there an empty space for your group to sit comfortably, that is still a good distance from others?
- Is there somewhere less crowded we can go to, that isn’t far from here to be on the safe side?

**Can I meet with a group of people outside of my home or organise a gathering in the park or another public space (other than my home)?**
Yes, you can organise a gathering of up to 10 people outside of your home. You can leave your home for recreation activities and do them with either members of your household, or with nine other people and yourself (a total of 10).

**What if I want to celebrate events such as birthdays?**
You can organise a gathering or party inside or outside of your home with the allowable number of people: a maximum of five visitors at any one time to your home or up to 10 people outside.
How does the 10 person limit work for restaurants?
The limit is up to 10 patrons at a time, so restaurants can have multiple sittings. They must allow 4 square metres per customer. The 10 patron limit is inclusive of indoor and outdoor areas.

Does the 10 maximum patrons for café, restaurants and pubs apply to all sizes of venue?
Yes. A maximum of 10 patrons are permitted in restaurants, cafes, pubs, clubs and hotels, not including the staff. The business must maintain physical distancing including 4 square metres per person, hand hygiene by washing your hands regularly with soap and water or alcohol-based sanitiser and frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection.

Does this mean cafes, restaurants and bars can offer dine-in options again, if they maintain social distancing and gathering rules?
Yes, restaurants and cafés are permitted to seat patrons, up to a maximum of 10 people at one time, ensuring the business maintains physical distancing including 4 square metres per person, hand hygiene by washing your hands regularly with soap and water or alcohol-based sanitiser and frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection. The 10 patron limit is inclusive of indoor and outdoor areas. Cafes and restaurants must prepare and comply with a COVID SAFE checklist if providing seated dining.

Takeaway service and delivery are still permitted.

I am looking to purchase a house/apartment; can I attend an auction?
Yes, real estate auctions are permitted due to the easing of restrictions allowing public gatherings of up to 10 people, ensuring social distancing is observed. Given the close interaction involved, agents are required to keep a record of names and contact details of each person to assist with contact tracing if required.

Can I go to the beach with a group of friends?
Yes, you can go to the beach with your friends but only in a group of up to 10 people, including yourself and the beach is within 150kms of your home. Remember to practise social distancing and keep two big steps away from each other and wash your hands regularly with soap and water or use alcohol-based sanitiser.

If I am at a park and there are already 10 people in total there and someone else arrives and won’t adhere to the rules for example social distancing, what should I do?
You can attend the park if there are already 10 people in the park. Gatherings in public spaces must be limited to a maximum of 10 people within one group.
We also still encourage you to use common sense when attending small public gatherings and if a park, or any other outdoor public space is over-crowded, go somewhere else for the time being. We ask that Queenslanders use common sense and good judgement, including maintaining plenty of distance between groups. Things to think about when deciding if a park is already too crowded include:

- Is there plenty of distance between each group (can you play ball between each group; can you talk easily without overhearing another group)?
- Is there an empty space for your group to sit comfortably, that is still a good distance from others?
- Is there somewhere less crowded we can go to, that isn’t far from here to be on the safe side?

Questions about recreation
What are recreational activities?
A recreational activity means an activity you do for fun, such as going fishing, driving a remote-control car or playing cards, going for a drive or ride on your motorbike, shopping for a book or new outfit, sitting on a park bench to enjoy your lunch or a coffee, or having a picnic in the park. Remember to practise social distancing and good hygiene; keep your gatherings at 10 people and stay within 150kms of your home (or 500km if you live in the Outback).
If you’re unwell, don’t go out. If you have symptoms, get tested.

What is the full list of activities we can do now? What if my activity isn’t on the list?
You can do any lawful activity for recreation, as long as you practise social distancing. A recreation activity means an activity you do for fun, such as going fishing, driving a remote-control car or playing cards, going for a drive or ride on your motorbike, shopping for a book or new outfit, sitting on a park bench to enjoy your lunch or a coffee, or having a picnic in the park.

Remember to practise social distancing and good hygiene; only go out with people you live with or up to 10 people; and stay within 150kms of home (or 500km if you live in the Outback).

What is classified as ‘your region’?
At this stage, your region is up to 150kms radius from where you live, ensuring you don’t cross into the Outback or cross the state border.
If you live in the Outback, your region is 500km from where you live within the Outback, making sure you don’t leave what is defined as the Outback or cross the state border.

Are National Parks open?
Yes, National Parks are open. Visit www.parks.des.qld.gov.au for more information on National Parks.
Coronavirus (COVID-19)
Information about staying home and going out

Home Confinement, Movement and Gathering Direction (No. 6)

Can I go camping?
Only people who are within the Outback can go camping in stage 1. Camping will be considered for areas outside the Outback in stage 2.

Can I have a picnic with my friends in the park?
Yes, you can participate in a recreational activity with up to ten people including yourself, ensuring social distancing is observed. You must stay within 150km of your home or 500km in the Outback.

Does this mean I can go to the beach?
If a beach is within 150kms of your home, you can go there, as long as you continue to follow social distancing and public gathering guidelines in the Direction.

What if I go to a beach or the park, and someone sits too close to me?
We’re urging all Queenslanders to maintain a social distancing of 1.5 metres and one person per four square metres, think two big steps away from another person, plus please use common sense. Queenslanders have been doing a great job so far.

Can I go fishing?
If your fishing spot is within the recreational limit of your home, you can go there, as long as you continue to follow social distancing and public gathering guidelines in the Direction.

How many people can I take in the boat?
If you’re by yourself, you can go out with nine other people who don’t usually live with you, or with the people you live with. However, remember to maintain social distancing between those people who don’t usually live with you. You can’t stay overnight on a boat outside of the Outback.

Can I go water-skiing?
If you’re water-skiing within 150kms of your home, you can go water-skiing with the members of your household or, if you’re by yourself, with nine other people. Practise social distancing and good hygiene as much as you can.

Can we now eat meals on benches in parks or in the city?
Yes, as long as you continue to follow social distancing, keeping 1.5 metres (two big steps) between other people and public gathering guidelines in the Direction.
Can I borrow a book from the library?
Libraries are permitted to open in Stage 1. The decision to open your local library rests with local government. If a library is open only 10 people are allowed inside at any one time, ensuring social distancing and hygiene measures are maintained.

Can I go to an exhibition at the library?
If a library chooses to open, they are permitted to hold an exhibition, but a maximum of 10 people are only allowed to be inside at a time. Interactive exhibitions remain closed.

Why can National Rugby League (NRL) start, but community sport can’t start up again until Stage 2?
The NRL is a classified as a workplace and the players, coaches and management of each team have put a plan in place that will mean NRL will be as safe as possible for players and the community. We are asking community sporting clubs to work with us in a gradual return to community sport that ensures the risk of community transmission remains low.

While community sport provides multiple benefits, including increased health and wellbeing and a social outlet, this needs to be appropriately balanced to ensure players are not put at increased risk of being exposed to COVID-19.

When will sporting groups know more detail about how restrictions are easing for particular sports?
The Queensland Government is working with key industry bodies and organisations to develop a set of guidelines and a process for consideration of COVID-SAFE plans for the Chief Health Officer. Following consultation, we are working to release the guidance material on Friday 15 May for community sporting bodies.

The Government will assist community sporting organisations to complete COVID-Safe return to play checklists, monitor implementation and respond to any community enquiries about the arrangements.

Can my children participate in after school sports?
At this stage, non-contact outdoor sporting based activities can take place up to a maximum of 10 people and with social distancing observed. This does not include competitions or fixtures. Indoor sport centres and venues remain closed.

*Example: boxing, tackling, soccer and wrestling are not allowed.*
The physical distancing rule should be maintained, one person per 4 square metres, along with appropriate social distancing and enhanced hygiene measures are implemented.

The 10 person rule includes all players, coaches, spectators and any other person who attends the gathering.

**Can I play lawn bowls with my mates?**
Yes, small group non-contact outdoor sporting activities are allowed to a maximum 10 people at any one time.

The physical distancing rule should be maintained, one person per 4 square metres, along with appropriate social distancing and enhanced hygiene measures are implemented. The 10 person rule includes all players, coaches, spectators and any other person who attends the gathering.

**Can my kids go on playgrounds?**
Yes. A maximum of 10 people will be able to use the playground equipment, as long as you and your child continue to follow social distancing and public gathering guidelines in the Direction.

**Can I go to a community facility, such as a community centre, youth centre or PCYC’s?**
Community facilities are open and able to provide services. They must ensure physical distancing is observed and hygiene is maintained.

For seated dining or outdoor sporting based activities, there is a limit of 10 people.

**How many people can I go on a hike with?**
A maximum of 10 people (including yourself), as per the public gathering advice, are allowed to go with you on your hike.

**Am I allowed to visit the local swimming pool for training or rehabilitation purposes?**
Yes, communal swimming pools are open for training and rehabilitation purposes, ensuring the following rules:

- one person per lane per lap swimming
- a maximum of 10 swimmers per pool
- no spectators, except for up to one parent/carer per child, if necessary
- communal showers and change rooms are closed, toilets may remain open
- minimise the use of communal facilities
- shower with soap before and after swimming (at home, not at the pool)
“get in, train, get out” to ensure no unnecessary co-mingling
maintain social distancing and hand hygiene.

School groups may continue to use public swimming pools and school facilities for lessons and training.

Is the pool in my apartment block allowed to be open?
Yes, the use of public pools can open for recreational purposes however they are limited to a maximum of 10 swimmers per pool.

How many people can be at outdoor exercise equipment at any one time?
A maximum of 10 people can use outdoor council run exercise equipment at the same time. Use common sense when utilising outdoor exercise equipment, for example, one person per piece of equipment and ensure you are keeping up with social distancing, two big steps away from other people, and good hand hygiene by washing your hands before and after your workout and use alcohol-based sanitiser.

How many people can attend a boot camp or personal training session?
Up to 10 people are allowed to attend a boot camp outside with equipment disinfected between each use. Participants must maintain the 4 square metres per person (two big steps away from other people) and are encouraged to bring their own equipment where possible (e.g. gym mat).

Can I move house?
Yes, you are permitted to move homes and engage professionals to assist you as this is considered an essential undertaking. However, during the move social distancing is to be practised as much as possible.

Questions about Outback Queensland
What is classified as ‘the Outback’?
The Outback is defined as the areas of Queensland listed in Schedule 1 of the Direction.

Can you go from the Outback to a non-Outback region?
Not for recreational purposes. There are areas that currently don’t have confirmed cases of COVID-19 and we want to keep it that way. We don’t want people from a high risk area moving into a low-risk area.

Under stage 1, you can travel within 150km from where you live for recreation, but not enter the Outback.
If you live in the Outback, you may travel within 500km from where you live for recreation, but only within the Outback.

**Can regional areas with no cases have restrictions fast-tracked?**
Queenslanders have done a great job in adhering to the restrictions in place to protect us all. Collectively, we’re flattening the curve sooner than anticipated, which means we can now commence lifting restrictions across the whole state. We now have a clear roadmap in place to lift restrictions in stages, however moving through each stage will require all Queenslanders to be patient and comply with the Directions so we don’t undo the great work.

**When will travel be allowed from SEQ to regional tourism communities like Cairns, Townsville and Whitsundays?**
Subject to further planning and review, we’ll be assessing statewide travel options for July onwards.

**I live in the Outback; how many people can dine in at a restaurant?**
Up to 20 local people can dine in at a restaurant, café, pub or club at any one time ensuring the one person per 4 square metre rule is adhered to. The 20 patrons is inclusive of indoor and outdoor areas. A local means a person whose principal place of residence is in the Outback or a person who is performing work or volunteering in the Outback, for example a fly-in fly-out worker or seasonal worker.

Remember to maintain physical distancing, practice good hygiene, and stay home if you are sick.

**If I live in Outback Queensland, can I travel from Charleville to St George?**
Yes, if you live in Outback Queensland you can enjoy recreational activities within 500km of your home, but only within the Outback. Because of the distance involved, people travelling for recreation in the Outback may stay for multiple nights away from their place of residence. The Outback is defined as the areas of Queensland listed in Schedule 1 of the Direction.

**Questions around the roadmap to easing restrictions**
**Why are restrictions being eased?**
Queensland has done a great job flattening the curve, which means we can start to get back to business as usual whilst maintaining social distancing. We need to ease restrictions in phases and manage this sensibly.

The selected restrictions are being lifted based on recommendations determined by Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPCC) and Queensland’s Chief Health Officer.
What happens after stage 3?
After stage 3, following advice from National Cabinet and the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPCC), the Queensland Government will determine whether the all restrictions can be removed.

When will the next stage after stage 3 be announced?
It will be reassessed after a minimum of 4 weeks, along with other COVID SAFE check points to determine whether the restrictions can be eased.

What is a COVID SAFE check point? What does it involve?
While we’re monitoring the situation all the time, the COVID SAFE check point is when the decision will made on progressing to the next stage in the roadmap. This involves:
- Minimum of four weeks between stages
- Data indicators tell us that a shift in restrictions would not present an undue risk
- Testing is still widespread and adequately identifies if there is any community transmission
- Point source outbreaks are effectively contained by public health actions

What will happen if people don’t follow the rules and cases go up again first?
Restrictions are being lifted because Queenslanders are doing a great job at listening to health advice and following the rules, however, there is the potential for our state to require tougher restrictions to be enforced if people take don’t abide by the new restrictions.

How will this be enforced?
Queensland Police and enforcement officers will enforce the lifting of these restrictions and ensure Queenslanders are doing their part to slow the spread. Industry and business regulators will also play a role in ensuring organisations are compliant with restrictions.

Why can’t some regions be exempted from restrictions entirely, given they have been COVID-19 free for weeks?
Easing restrictions in some parts of the state and not others, would require locking those areas down entirely – meaning no one could come in or out. That’s not practical for a number of reasons.

Queenslanders have done a great job in adhering to the restrictions in place to protect us all. Collectively, we’re flattening the curve sooner than anticipated, which means we can now commence lifting restrictions across the whole state. We now have a clear roadmap in place to lift restrictions in stages, however moving through each stage will require all Queenslanders to be patient and comply with the Directions so we don’t undo the great work.
Why are there four weeks between each stage?
An incubation period for COVID-19 is 14 days. Four weeks in between each stage allows for two incubation periods. In this time, we will be able to monitor and assess any new cases and make sure these don’t exceed COVID SAFE check point thresholds for the next stage.

If a business isn’t adhering to the rules, what do I do?
If you think a business has broken any rules, you can report them to PoliceLink or to their relevant industry regulator.

Why do the numbers jump from 20 to 100 people between stage 2 and stage 3? Is this safe?
The maximum of 100 persons permitted in stage 3 is subject to further planning and review. Prior to entering any new stage, a COVID SAFE check will be conducted to assess impact before further easing of restrictions.

Do the easing of restrictions also apply to people who are more at risk?
We strongly urge all people aged 70 years and over, anybody 65 years and over with a chronic disease, and Indigenous people over 50 years with chronic disease to stay at home for their own protection where possible and continue take extra precautions to reduce their risk, like strictly adhering to social distancing and hygiene guidelines and avoiding situations where they may come into contact with a lot of people.

Do the easing of restrictions also apply to First Nations communities?
To help us protect the health of our First Nations communities, the current travel restrictions under the Federal Government’s Biosecurity Act for remote and discrete Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities will continue to stay in place.

If you leave the area, you may not be able to come back straight away. Before you come back in you will need to quarantine for 14 days and show no signs of COVID-19 or you will need to ask for special permission.

We all need to follow these directions to keep our communities safe.

What modelling exists?
The Commonwealth has released modelling about what the progression of the virus may look like in Australia. That modelling was considered when this plan was developed.
Will there be more cases?
It is likely we will see more cases. We have very clear monitoring systems in place. Our healthcare system is prepared and has capacity to handle any new cases. We need to take special care of people who are vulnerable to COVID-19, so that they avoid catching the virus. For example, special measures on visiting in residential aged care facilities.

Will the original restrictions be put back in place again? Why/Why not? When?
While we’re easing some restrictions, it’s essential Queenslanders continue to do the right thing and abide by the restrictions that are in place. The last thing we want is to see the number of cases in Queensland grow. We’re working towards getting Queenslanders back to normal living.

The roadmap mentions COVID SAFE check points. Will data from the COVID SAFE app be used to assess these?
We’re urging every Queenslander to download the app to their phone. Data from the app will help us respond to any potential outbreak. That’s the only purpose for which data can be supplied to Queensland Health experts.

Other general questions and advice
Has social distancing changed?
No. You should continue to practise social distancing when you leave your home. This includes keeping two big steps away from each other and avoid hugs, kisses and handshakes.

Are there penalties if I don’t comply?
Yes. If you don’t comply you may be given an on-the-spot fine of $1,334 for individuals and $6,670 for corporations under the Public Health Act 2005.

What proof of address will be accepted? For example, I’ve recently moved from Mackay to Brisbane and my driver licence has not been updated yet.
It’s important to be able to prove where you live with genuine identification. Queensland Police Service will follow their usual practices when determining where you live.

If I had to close my retail store because of the effects of COVID-19, can I re-open it?
While we understand some retail stores have closed their shopfronts, there was no public health direction to do so. You can re-open any business that is not required to be closed under the Non-essential Business, Activity and Undertaking Direction. For further information about the non-essential businesses, please see the Direction.
What restrictions are there on crowd numbers in shopping centres?
All businesses are required to ensure that the number of people in their store meets the guidelines of one person per four-square-metres. Queensland businesses have been doing a great job so far with new social distancing measures.

Can food courts re-open?
No, at this stage under the *Non-essential Business, Activity and Undertaking Closure Direction*, food courts are required to remain closed. Food businesses within a food court can operate but only on a takeaway basis.