

UPDATE: COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AND LOCKDOWNS ACROSS AUSTRALIA

Current COVID-19 restrictions are in place across Australia, including most major cities. As this situation is developing rapidly, this information is current as of 12:00pm on Wednesday 7 July 2021, however we will endeavour to update members as soon as possible if there are any changes.

Update: NSW Lockdown Extended

From 6pm on Saturday 26 June 2021, Stay-at-home orders apply to Greater Sydney including the Blue Mountains, Central Coast, Wollongong and Shellharbour **has been extended until 11.59pm on Friday, 16 July 2021.**

Automotive is considered an essential service, including retail at this time, therefore all automotive businesses are permitted to continue operating responsibly and in a COVIDSafe environment. Customers are allowed to access the services of automotive businesses. Employers must allow an employee to work from home if it is reasonably practicable to do so. If you cannot work from home and you go to your workplace, you must wear a face mask, even if you can social distance, unless exempt. You must wear a face mask at indoor non-residential premises in NSW, at all times.

[APPLY NOW: Small business fees and charges rebate](#)

If you are a sole trader, the owner of a small business or a not-for-profit organisation in NSW, you may be eligible for a small business fees and charges rebate of \$1500. This rebate helps businesses recover from the impacts of COVID-19 and encourages growth by reducing the cost of running a business. Eligible businesses or not-for-profits only need to apply for the rebate once, but can submit multiple claims until the full value of \$1500 is reached. [CLICK HERE](#) or more information.

[COVID-19 Small Business Support Grant](#)

Grants between \$5000 and \$10,000 designed to help small businesses (under 20FTE employees) and can be used for business expenses such as power, utilities and wages which no other government support is available. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to apply.

[Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment](#)

The Australian Government's Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment is a lump sum payment to help you during the 14 days you need to self-isolate, quarantine or care for someone. If you need longer-term help, you may be eligible for other payments.

The Pandemic Leave Disaster Payment is for people living in NSW who cannot earn an income because they must self-isolate, quarantine or care for someone who has COVID-19.

[More information can be found HERE.](#)

NT: Lockdowns No Longer in Place, Restrictions Still Apply

Stay at home orders are no longer in place across Northern Territory and all businesses are allowed to open. However, there will be until 1pm on 9 July 2021 for high-risk activities to reduce the risk of COVID-19 in our community. All businesses and places where customers and clients visit need to use a check-in system, like The Territory Check-In App. Pen and paper will still be permitted.

Face masks must be worn in public when you cannot maintain a physical distance of 1.5m. Masks are not required at work where physical distancing of 1.5m can be applied. Workers who come into close contact with patrons, or who work in environments where physical distancing of 1.5m cannot be applied will need to wear a mask. This includes people who work in automotive retail and customer service industries. [More information click HERE](#)

The **Territory Business Lockdown Payment** has been established to provide immediate financial support to businesses during a lockdown period. This payment is an amount of \$1,000 and those eligible will need to submit a simple online application. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information and to apply.

South Australia: Easing of Restrictions

South Australia has eased its state-wide restrictions, however everyone must still attempt to stay at least 1.5 metres from members of the public, and you should wear a mask if you are unable to do so. There are density quotas still in place for retail, as well as COVIDSafe Check-In. The total number of people at a place must not exceed **3 people per 4 square metres**. [Please ensure your COVIDSafe plan, or voluntary COVIDSafe plan is up to date.](#)

Perth and Peel Areas: Transitional Restrictions

Transitional restrictions are in effect from 12.01am Tuesday, 6 July 2021 **until 12.01am Monday, 12 July 2021** for Perth and Peel. People should return to work unless they are vulnerable, and mask-wearing requirements remain in place.

Masks are still mandatory indoors, including the workplace, and in outdoors areas where distancing is not possible.

To assist WA has created the SafeWA app, for more information on creating a business account and using the app, [click HERE](#)

Queensland: Lockdown Lifted - Restrictions Still in Place

Lockdown restrictions have been lifted for the 13 local government areas of Brisbane, Ipswich, Logan City, Moreton Bay, Redlands, Sunshine Coast, Gold coast, Noosa, Somerset, Lockyer Valley, Scenic Rim, Townsville (including Magnetic Island), and Palm Island Aboriginal Shire Council.

Face mask wearing and gathering restrictions will continue to apply across all LGAs areas listed **until 6:00pm on Friday 16 July**. Masks must be worn at all times when outside of your place of residence, including in workplaces, where safe to wear a mask and when you cannot physically distance. While not mandatory, you are encouraged to carry a mask with you at all times.

Capacity restrictions are as follows:

- Indoor – 1 person per 4m²
- Smaller venues up to 200m² – 1 person per 2m² up to max 50
- Outdoor – 1 person per 2m²

All businesses must use a COVID Safe Checklist, in replacement of a COVID Safe Industry Plan. You can [view it HERE](#). For further information on assistance [CLICK HERE](#).

The use of the Check In Qld app will be mandatory for a large number of new businesses to collect contact information from 8 July. [Click here for more information.](#)

Victoria; Easing of Restrictions in Melbourne in Line with Regional

The Victorian government has just announced a further easing of coronavirus restrictions to apply from 11.59pm on Thursday 8 July.

Masks will still be required in indoor, public-facing settings and must be carried at all times. But face coverings will no longer be mandatory for staff at workplaces where there is not public interaction such as offices and factories. Workplaces will also be subject to a density limit of one person per 2 square metres.

General retailers can open under a density limit of 1 person per 2 square metres if a COVID Check-in Marshall is operating otherwise a limit of 1 per person per 4 square metres apply.

Check-In is now mandatory across Victoria for every Victorian business. They must use the [Victorian Government QR Code Service](#) to check-in their workers, customers and visitors - with some limited exemptions.

For customer-facing venues and workplaces, such as retailers, it is already mandatory to use the Victorian Government QR Code Service. For businesses that have not previously been mandated to use the Victorian Government QR Code Service prior to Thursday 11:59pm 10 June 2021 an enforcement amnesty is in place until Thursday 11:59pm 1 July 2021.

There are a range of posters and signage for your businesses available on the Victorian COVID-19 Website [HERE](#).

There are a range of templates and posters, including door signs for businesses closed to public access on the AAAA website, behind the member portal.

Please contact us at AAAA if you have any questions, or email advocacy@aaaa.com.au