

## COVID-19 UPDATE #17 – QUEENSLAND BORDER RESTRICTIONS

Queensland has tightened its border restrictions, effective from 8pm AEST Saturday, 14 August 2021. The Border Restrictions Direction (No. 35) can be found [here](#).

With all of NSW now declared a COVID-19 hotspot, these arrangements may present new issues for the waste and recycling industry to manage, particularly where workers at facilities in Queensland are NSW border zone residents and where normal waste collection activities involve some cross border movements.

Part four (4) of this [directive](#) is particularly appropriate with specialist or essential worker endorsements/exemptions remaining relevant to the waste and recycling industry. Queensland Border Declaration Passes are essential for anyone crossing the border and those who held passes up to Monday, 16 August 2021 may need to apply for a new one. Given current circumstances you can expect consideration for these passes to include justification of why the work is critical, can't be done remotely, and/or can't be done by someone outside of a hotspot.

***From Friday 20 August 2021, any exempt, essential workers entering Queensland from New South Wales will be required to have had at least one (1) dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.***

Further information about border zones workers can be found at [Travelling to Queensland | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](#)

Border workers and freight workers who cross domestic borders are included as groups of people being prioritised for vaccination in Queensland. Below is some general information about vaccines and freight and logistics that may be of use to you in your business continuity planning and workforce communications.

### COVID-19 Vaccines

The following groups of people are currently being prioritised for vaccination at a Queensland Health vaccination location. Call 134 COVID (13 42 68) to book an appointment:

- Any person needing a second dose (regardless of vaccine brand) who received their first dose at a Queensland Health vaccination clinic.
- Healthcare workers including students on clinical placement.
- Residential aged care and disability care workers.
- Hotel quarantine workers (including passenger transport services).
- Border workers.
- Queensland Police Service workers.
- Queensland Corrective Service workers.
- School staff and childcare workers.

- Workers at airports that receive international and domestic flights.
- Queensland-based international and interstate aircrew workers.
- Freight workers who cross domestic borders.
- Fly-in-fly-out mining workers based in Queensland who fly or drive to work and are then accommodated on site at a mining operation within Queensland or other parts of Australia or Papua New Guinea.
- Maritime industry workers.
- Volunteers at a COVID-19 testing or vaccination clinic.
- Household contacts (aged 16 years and older) of quarantine workers, border workers and healthcare workers who are at a higher risk of having contact with COVID-positive patients.

**Freight and logistics - full details visit [Transport and Main Roads \(vision6.com.au\)](https://www.vision6.com.au)**

- Mandatory COVID-19 testing regimes are in place for freight and logistics operators entering Queensland from [Queensland-declared COVID-19 hotspots](#) and affected areas.
- Mandatory COVID-19 testing regimes are in place for freight and logistics operators entering Queensland from Queensland-declared COVID-19 hotspots and affected areas.
- The updated Queensland Freight Protocol continues to apply to freight and logistics operators who have been in a Queensland-declared COVID-19 hotspot and affected area, in the 14 days prior to arrival in Queensland or since the identified start date of that declared area.
- As of Friday 23 July 2021, all of New South Wales and Victoria are declared COVID-19 hotspots.
- From 1am AEST Saturday 14 August 2021, the Australian Capital Territory was declared a hotspot.
- Freight and logistics workers and those that are deemed critical support for this industry are considered essential and can continue working. Face masks must continue to be worn unless unsafe to do so.
- Dedicated temporary truck-only testing sites have been established at:
  - Port of Brisbane QML freight and logistics testing site is located at 58 Port Drive, Port of Brisbane. This site is operational seven days a week, from 6am-5pm. QML staff are onsite to assist drivers.
  - BP Charlton QML Freight and Logistics testing site located at just west of Toowoomba on the Warrego Highway. This site is operational seven days a week, from 8am-4pm (Mon-Fri) and 8am-3pm (Mon-Sun). QML staff are onsite to assist drivers.
  - Brisbane Entertainment Centre is located at the Brisbane Entertainment Centre, 1 Melaleuca Drive, Boondall. This site is operational seven days a week, from 8am-4pm. 4Cyte staff are onsite to assist drivers.
- Freight and logistics drivers entering Queensland who have left the confines of the heavy vehicle in an affected area require a valid Queensland Border Declaration Pass (F Pass) to enter Queensland. They must get tested and receive a negative test result in the seven (7)

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days prior to entering Queensland and must also be able to provide evidence of a test being undertaken in the 72 hours immediately prior to entering Queensland. Furthermore, they must maintain a rolling three (3)-day testing cycle until they leave Queensland or 14 days have passed since they were in the affected area, whichever is shorter.

- Freight and logistics drivers entering Queensland from declared COVID-19 hotspots require a valid Queensland Border Declaration Pass (F Pass) to enter Queensland. They must have received a negative COVID-19 test result within seven (7) days of entering Queensland and must maintain a rolling seven-day routine testing cycle while continuing to travel into and out of declared COVID-19 hotspots.
- These workers must be able to provide hardcopy or electronic evidence of compliance with all testing requirements under the Queensland Freight Protocol.
- Freight and logistics operators who are Queensland residents, or border zone residents, who have only been in the NSW border zone in the 14 days prior to entering Queensland, continue to be essential workers and require a valid Queensland Border Declaration Pass (Border Zone Travel - X Pass) to enter Queensland for work, and do not need to undertake COVID-19 rolling surveillance testing.
- Freight and logistics operators who have not been in a Queensland declared hotspot, affected area or the NSW border zone require a valid Queensland Entry Pass (T Pass) to enter Queensland for work, and do not need to undertake COVID-19 rolling surveillance testing.
- Freight and logistics operators entering Queensland, who have been at an interstate exposure venue in the previous 14 days, are required to have a valid Queensland Entry Pass and quarantine.
- Freight and logistics operators entering Queensland, who have been at a Queensland exposure venue in the previous 14 days are required to quarantine.
- A person not covered under the Queensland Freight Protocol, but working in the heavy vehicle, logistics or rail sector who seeks to enter from a COVID-19 hotspot, may be considered a specialist or essential worker. They must meet the criteria outlined in the current Border Restrictions Direction and be endorsed by the Queensland Chief Health Officer. If endorsed, these workers may enter Queensland without the need to undertake mandatory 14-day quarantine in government-nominated accommodation; however, they will be subject to a Quarantine Management Plan.