



# Transport of seasonal workers in Queensland during the COVID-19 pandemic

Everyone has a general obligation to keep themselves, their neighbours and the community safe from coronavirus (COVID-19). You must follow Queensland's public health directions for COVID-19.

As seasonal workers move between regions in response to work availability, it is critical to minimise the potential risk of spread of COVID-19 to the communities they travel and temporarily reside in. One risk pathway is the transportation of workers to, from and around the workplace.

## Information for seasonal workers, including temporary visa holders

Queensland's state border is closed and travel restrictions and self-quarantine requirements are in place. You must apply for work in Queensland before moving from your current location, and secure a [Queensland border pass](#).

If you are a temporary visa holder or seasonal worker already in Queensland, you are subject to the restrictions in place under the [Home Confinement, Movement and Gatherings direction](#), meaning you should not leave your place of residence unless absolutely necessary.

When transferring to, from and around work, you are required to:

- stay at home if you are unwell
- travel directly to and from work, only undertaking any other essential activities such as shopping for essentials, medical needs or exercise
- practice social distancing by keeping 1.5 metres away from others and avoid contact with others
- wash your hands often and properly with soap and water or use an alcohol-based rub.

## Information for private transport providers

New public health directions issued from the Chief Health Officer (*effective from 12:01 am 5 May 2020*) require all agribusinesses, commercial fisheries businesses and labour hire companies employing seasonal workers to have a health management plan in place. Similarly, private or charter workforce transport providers transporting seasonal workers to, from and around a workplace are required to have a health management plan in place, including appropriate record keeping.

## Health management plan requirements

A health management plan demonstrates compliance with COVID-19 public health directions and describes the measures that can be implemented to minimise risks of transmission of COVID-19.

A health management plan will need to be completed by private workforce transportation providers engaged in transferring seasonal workers in passenger transport vehicles, such as buses, coaches, mini-vans and courtesy vehicles.

[Download](#) the health management template and associated guidelines that have been developed for accommodation and private workforce transport providers.

For further information on the requirements of a health management plan, see the [Border Restrictions Direction](#).



## Obligations for private workforce transport providers

Providers should also be ensuring staff and passengers are complying with the [Home Confinement, Movement and Gatherings direction](#), to ensure:

- passengers achieve social distancing requirements by maintaining a minimum distance of 1.5 metres from each other within the vehicle
- when commuting by bus, minibus or van, passengers will keep at least one vacant seat in all directions, separating them from other passengers
- wherever possible, vehicles should have as much fresh air circulation by adjusting air conditioning or opening windows and allowing air circulation between trips by leaving windows down
- general good hygiene measures and consistent cleaning of vehicles is undertaken, paying particular attention to frequently touched surfaces. To assist in the cleaning of transfer vehicles the [factsheet for the cleaning and management of personalised transport](#) provides good guidance
- if any staff are unwell, they should stay home.

## Further information

For further information on arrangements to support the employment of visa and seasonal workers in Queensland, visit [covid19.qld.gov.au](https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au).

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