

THE ACT'S COVID-19 PATHWAY FORWARD – FROM 15 OCTOBER 2021

Our guiding principles

- We will always put the health and wellbeing of the community at the forefront of our decision making, especially the impact on mental health.
- We will get as many people back to work as soon as we can.
- We will continue to listen to the community and businesses about the impact of the public health measures.
- In recognition of strong community compliance and a stable public health situation, we will make some minor amendments to restrictions on **1 October**.
- Lockdown will be lifted on **15 October** when we expect our community will have reached 80 per cent full vaccination and the nation is expected to have reached 70 per cent.
- By **29 October** our surrounding region will likely have achieved the 80 per cent vaccination threshold and the nation will likely reach 80 per cent soon after. This may enable further easing, if the public health situation allows.
- Before we take any further steps beyond 29 October we will need to closely consider the epidemiological situation, cases in our surrounding region and our public health and hospital system capacity.

Our steps forward

Before we take each step we will consider:

- our vaccination rates, including in our vulnerable communities;
- our health system capacity, including the impact of COVID-19 in regional NSW;
- case numbers and current trends;
- testing rates and turnaround times;
- the levels of community transmission, especially the proportion of cases infectious in the community;
- our ability to quickly test, trace, isolate quarantine (TTIQ); and
- how well the community and businesses are complying with the restrictions.

The measures below are indicative. It is difficult to predict the future with so many competing factors to consider. If the situation worsens we may need to delay further easing of restrictions or tighten restrictions again.

From 1 October 2021

- Lockdown continues
- No more than 2 people to visit another household at any one time
- 1 household (any size) or up to 5 people can gather outdoors for up to 4 hours for physical or recreational activities
- All non-essential retail can operate click & deliver or click & collect – max 5 staff or 1 per 4 sqm
- Small businesses can operate click & collect or click & deliver or by contactless means – max 5 staff or 1 per 4 sqm
- Outdoor bootcamps and personal training can recommence with no more than 2 people (excluding instructors)
- Outdoor and contactless coaching can recommence with no more than 2 people (excluding the coach).
- Nature Reserves and National Parks can open for recreational purposes – outdoor gathering restrictions apply
- All dental services can be undertaken, including preventative services
- Education:
 - 5 October – year 12 start returning for practical classes and key exams/assessments. Year 11 attend only for essential assessments that cannot wait until 18 October

From 15 October 2021

- Lockdown lifted (11.59pm 14 October 2021)
- The following activities can operate with capacity of 25 people or density of 1 per 4 sqm, whichever is less for:
 - Gyms (excluding classes) and organised outdoor training
 - Weddings
 - Outdoor play centres or amusement centres
 - Places of worship
 - Outdoor auctions
 - Gaming and gambling venues
 - Outdoor tours
 - Community centres or facilities
 - To broadcast a performance
- Licensed venues, cafes and restaurants for seated service. Max 25 people across venue or 1 per 4 sqm indoors. Businesses can have max 50 people or 1 per 4 sqm if outdoors only. Not both.
- 5 people can visit another household at any one time
- 25 people can gather outdoors
- **All non-essential retail can operate a click & collect, click & deliver service or 2 people from same household in a store at a time by booked appointment – max 10 staff allowed or 1 per 4 sqm**
- **Essential retail – hardware, building services, agricultural & rural supplies, pet stores, office supplies can have 2 people from same household in a store at a time by booked appointment**
- **Additional postcodes for NSW border residents standing exemption.**
- Open – hairdressers, beauty and personal services - max 5 clients
- Open – accommodation, campgrounds, caravan parks and campsites – gathering restrictions apply
- **Open – swimming pools for lessons or 2 swimmers per lane – max 25 swimmers or 1 per 4 sqm.**
- Gradual return to the workplace where it suits you and your employer
- Aged care – up to 2 vaccinated visitors per day per resident for any reason
- Funerals increased to 50 attendees
- Education:
 - 18 October – year 11 and 12 return to on campus learning
 - 25 October – early childhood reopens, pre-school to year 2, and years 6, 9 and 10 return to on campus learning. Out of school hours care available to on campus learners

From 29 October 2021

- The following activities can operate with max 25 people across the venue before density limits apply. Over 25 people: indoor 1 per 4 sqm or max 100; outdoor 1 per 2 sqm or max 150:
 - Licensed venues, cafes and restaurants
 - Gyms (classes limited to 20 people)
 - Organised sport and swimming pools
 - Play centres or amusement centres
 - Places of worship
 - Real estate services and auctions
 - Gaming and gambling venues
 - Outdoor attractions
 - Weddings
 - Funerals
 - Community centres or facilities
- 10 people can visit a household at any one time
- 30 people can gather outdoors
- Ticketed events:
 - Outdoor can have up to 500 people
 - Indoor with fixed seating 75% capacity up to 500
 - Indoor with unfixed seating 1 per 4 sqm, capacity up to 150
- All retail permitted to open with 1 per 4 sqm
- Less restrictive travel in our region
- Open with restrictions – cinemas, galleries, museums, cultural institutions, historic sites and outdoor attractions
- Dance classes, choirs and bands commence – max 20 people or 1 per 4 sqm
- Education:
 - 1 November – Years 3, 4, 5, 7 and 8 return to on campus learning. All students can attend their usual out of school hours care programs

End Nov - Early Dec 2021

- All public health social measures to align with the National Plan, taking into account the local situation.
- Consideration will be given to:
- Larger events and gatherings with some limits. Exemptions may still be required.
 - Reduced density requirements eg: 1 person per 2 sqm
 - Reopening of food courts
 - Reopening of nightclubs
 - Return to face-face learning for higher education
 - Further easing of travel restrictions – any interstate or overseas travel will be subject to the decisions of the Commonwealth and other State and Territory Governments

NOTES:

*Changes since 1 October in **bold**.

**Vaccination data indicative only and based on ACT double dose of COVID-19 vaccination for ACT residents aged 12 and over.

*** More detail can be found in the Summary of Proposed Restrictions Table.

Ongoing →



Maintain good hand hygiene



Keep your distance



Stay home if unwell and get tested



Check In for contact tracing



Monitor travel advice



Wear a face mask



Covid safe plan



For more information:
covid19.act.gov.au

