

# THE ACT'S COVID-19 PATHWAY FORWARD – FROM 29 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.

## Our steps forward

Before we take each step we will consider:

- the current COVID-19 risk, both in the ACT and regional NSW
- our vaccination rates and effectiveness, including in our vulnerable communities

- the capacity of our health system
- our test, trace, isolate and quarantine measures and their effectiveness
- the vaccination rates of our younger groups until they reach 80% vaccination coverage to ensure the best possible protection for our community.

- From 29 October, our restrictions will be largely in line with NSW restrictions for vaccinated people
- We will continue to assess the situation here and in regional NSW, and remain flexible to adapting our pathway forward as necessary.

### 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 – up to 5 staff or 1 per 4 sqm
- Small businesses can operate click & collect or click & deliver or by contactless means – up to 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

### From 15 October 2021

- Lockdown lifted (11.59pm 14 October 2021)
- **The following activities can operate with a capacity of 25 people or density of 1 per 4 sqm, whichever is less for:**
  - Gyms (excluding classes) & organised outdoor training, weddings, outdoor play centres or amusement centres, places of worship, outdoor auctions, gaming & gambling venues, outdoor tours, community centres or facilities, to broadcast a performance
  - Licensed venues, cafes and restaurants for seated service up to 25 people across venue or 1 per 4 sqm indoors. Businesses can have up to 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 or click & deliver service. Small business can also operate by contactless means – up to 10 people allowed or 1 per 4 sqm
  - Open – hairdressers, beauty and personal services - up to 5 clients
  - Open – accommodation, campgrounds, caravan parks and campsites – gathering restrictions apply
  - Open – swimming pools for lessons only – up to 25 swimmers
  - Gradual return to the workplace where it suits you and your employer
  - Funerals increased to 50 attendees

#### Education:

- 18 October – year 11 & 12 return to on campus learning
- 25 October – early childhood reopens, pre-school to year 2 and years 6,9 & 10 return to on campus learning. Out of school hours care available to on campus learners.

### From 29 October 2021

- Facemasks for indoors only (exemptions apply)
- No more than 10 visitors at home at any one time
- 30 people can gather outdoors
- **The following activities can operate without density limits up to 25 people. If over 25 people the following applies:**
- **Indoor 1 per 4 sqm:**
  - Hairdressers, beauty & personal services
- **Indoor 1 per 4 sqm (no cap) or outdoor 1 per 2 sqm up to 300 people:**
  - Hospitality and licenced venues, gaming & gambling venues, cafes & restaurants, places of worship, weddings & funerals, gyms, fitness & sport, community centres, facilities & youth centres, real estate & auctions
  - Food courts for seated service – 1 per 4 sqm
- **Indoor 1 per 4 sqm (no cap) or outdoor 1 per 2 sqm up to 500 people:**
  - Organised sport and swimming pools – changerooms open
  - Organised events can have up to 500 people without exemption – must be ticketed
- Open with restrictions – cinemas, galleries, museums, cultural institutions, historic sites & outdoor attractions
- Open with restrictions – events & performance venues, conferences & cinemas
- Dance classes, choirs & bands commence – up to 20 people or 1 per 4 sqm
- Businesses not covered elsewhere in the Direction (incl. retail) can open with 1 per 4 sqm to any areas accessible to the public
- **Education:**
  - 1 November – years 3,4,5,7 & 8 return to on campus learning
  - All students can attend their usual out of school hours care programs.

#### From Monday 1 November 2021 – Interstate Travel

- NSW and Victoria will no longer be declared as COVID-19 Affected Areas.
- A risk-based approach will be followed to determine travel restrictions going forward.
- High risk geographical areas will continue to be restricted, and exemptions required prior to travel

### From 26 November 2021

- Facemasks for indoors only (high risk settings)
- No limit on visitors at home or outdoor gatherings
- All retail permitted to open with 1 per 2 sqm
- Businesses not covered elsewhere in the Direction (incl. retail) can open with 1 per 2 sqm to any areas accessible to the public
- **The following activities can operate without density limits up to 25 people. If over 25 people the following applies:**
- **Indoor 1 per 2 sqm:**
  - Hairdressers, beauty & personal services
- **1 per 2 sqm for indoors and outdoors:**
  - Hospitality & licenced venues, food courts, gaming & gambling venues, cafes & restaurants, places of worship, weddings & funerals, gyms, fitness & sport, community centres, facilities & youth centres, real estate & auctions, dance classes, choirs, bands & orchestras
  - Eating, drinking while standing & dancing is permitted
  - No limit on class numbers for gyms
  - Cinemas – 100% fixed seating
- **1 per 2 sqm for indoors or outdoors up to 1000 people:**
  - Organised sport and swimming pools
  - Events can have up to 1000 people without exemption – must be ticketed
- Open with restrictions – galleries, museums, cultural institutions, historic sites and outdoor attractions
- Open with density limits – events & performance venues, conferences.

#### NOTE:

- Further detail can be found in the Summary of Restrictions Table available on the ACT COVID-19 website.
- These measures 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 11.59pm on Thursday 21 October 2021 - Non Essential Retail and Certain Essential Retail Businesses

- Click & Collect requirements to be removed and businesses can reopen to the public
  - Businesses must meet their work, health & safety obligations
- 1 person per 4 sqm must be applied to any areas of the business which are accessible to the public.

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](https://covid19.act.gov.au)

