



PHEOC BULLETIN #24

Tuesday 25 August 2020 14:00 Hours

This bulletin has been authorised by the Deputy PHEOC Coordinator, Dr Revle Bangor-Jones

COVID-19 case numbers

- As of **25 August 2020**, there have been **653** confirmed cases of COVID-19 notified in Western Australia (WA) and **29 historical cases**. **635** people have recovered.
- To date **307,797** COVID-19 tests have been conducted in WA.
- **WA:** [Daily snapshot](#)
- **National:** [Current National Status](#)
- **Worldwide:** [WHO Situation Reports](#) & [WHO Dashboard](#)

Living with COVID

New resources for the Aboriginal Sector

The latest edition of the [Aboriginal Sector Communication Update](#) is now available on line and a new resource [Self-isolation information after testing for Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) has also been released providing very easy to read information.

National COVID-19 Alcohol Campaign: Alcohol and Drug Foundation

The Alcohol and Drug Foundation (ADF) has launched a new national advertising campaign encouraging Australians to consider their drinking patterns during recent COVID-19 lockdowns. The [campaign website](#) has been built using evidence-based information.

Events and mass gatherings - position statement

Under the current Directions, events of any size are permitted (except music festivals), with a minimum of 2 square metres required per person (subject to standard approvals processes).

Event organisers and local governments are advised that this is currently under review.

The WA Government is committed to supporting event organisers in a way that also ensures public health and safety are prioritised. A protocol is currently being developed under which COVIDsafe events may be permitted.

Hotel and accommodation providers (with guests in quarantine or isolation)

If hotel and accommodation management require support to review and implement best practice infection prevention measures, please contact the Infection, Prevention and Control (IPC) team at pheoc@health.wa.gov.au For the full suite of protocols and recommendations, please see [Hotel/Accommodation Fact Sheet](#)

Aged care

Australian Health Protection Principal Committee (AHPPC) [statement](#) on the national COVID-19 response for residential aged care facilities statement has been published. A time-limited AHPPC Aged Care Advisory Group will be established to support the national public health emergency response to COVID-19 in aged care. The Advisory Group will bring together expertise about the aged care sector, infection control, emergency preparedness and public health response.

Phase 5 date postponed

The tentative date for Phase 5 has been postponed until Saturday, 24 October. See the [WA Roadmap](#)

Perth Royal Show cancelled for 2020

On the advice from the Chief Health Officer, the Perth Royal Show will not go ahead as planned in 2020. The Royal Show provides several unique challenges and poses too big a risk from a public health perspective.

The WA Government will work closely with the Royal Agricultural Society to make sure they can deliver a vibrant Perth Royal Show in future years.

For more information visit the [Royal Agricultural Society of Western Australia](#).

Victoria and NSW update

VICTORIA - Latest updates can be viewed [HERE](#).

NSW - Latest updates can be viewed [HERE](#).

Community

Directions for Maritime, Rig and Platform Crew

These Directions require all Maritime, Rig or Platform crew entering WA (from outside Australia or from another state) to quarantine in a state (SHICC) managed quarantine centre/hotel.

Regular testing of interstate freight drivers

Any truck driver entering Western Australia now needs to show evidence of having received a negative COVID-19 test result in the last 5 days or they will be directed at the WA border to present for a COVID-19 test within 48 hours. They will also be required to present for testing every 7 days while in WA (up until they have been in WA for 14 days). For more information see our [Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions FAQs](#).

Presentation for testing Directions (NO 4)

All interstate arrivals are now subject to a requirement to present for testing on Day 11 after arrival in WA. This is in addition to any testing requirements in place for interstate arrivals from Victoria or NSW. For more information see our [factsheet on the Presentation for Testing Directions](#).

Cap on international arrivals to Perth Airport extended

The cap on international arrivals to Perth Airport has been extended until 24 October 2020. The cap was introduced on 12 July 2020 and limits the number of international passengers entering Western Australia to 525 per week, or about 75 a day.

DETECT schools' program

The school research project forms part of the [DETECT program](#). View the complete list of participating schools [here](#).

To date **10,097** tests have been performed on school staff and students with zero positive cases.

Directions updates

COVID-19 [State of Emergency Declarations](#) and [Community Advice](#) summarises the latest COVID-19 Directions that are in place in WA. Further information can be found on [WA Government website](#) and the [Directions FAQs](#). Quick links are below:

- [Quarantine \(Closing the Border\) Amendment Directions \(No 3\)](#)
- [Visitors to Residential Aged Care Facilities](#)
- [Presentation for Testing Directions](#) effective from 13 August 2020
- [Quarantine and Isolation \(Undiagnosed\) Amendment](#)
- [Transport, Freight and Logistics Directions](#) effective from 13 August 2020
- [Quarantine \(Closing the Border\) Directions Approval Maritime Crew \(No3\) and the Quarantine \(Closing the border\) Directions Approval for Rig or Platform Crew \(No 2\) effective midnight 20 August 2020](#)

Testing

Australian Health Protection Principal Committee [statement](#) on asymptomatic testing

AHPPC continues to recommend that testing strategies, including workplace screening programs for asymptomatic people, be developed in consultation with relevant public health authorities and laboratory directors. This is to ensure the most appropriate and effective approaches are employed.

General population [testing criteria](#)

Any person may be tested if they have any one of the following clinical criteria: fever ($\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) **OR** history of fever (e.g. night sweats, chills), without a known source **OR** an acute respiratory infection (e.g. shortness of breath, cough, sore throat), **OR** acute loss of smell or taste.

This is especially important for people with any of the following epidemiological criteria:

- anyone who lives or works in a high-risk setting with direct patient contact (e.g. healthcare, aged care or residential care)
- contacts of a confirmed or probable case
- people returning from outside WA in the last 14 days or who have lived/ travelled through an area with elevated risk of community transmission
- where clinical and public health have determined a hospitalised patient with non-specific signs of infection is at increased risk of COVID

Testing locations

Testing locations are listed on [Healthy WA](#).

Reporting

Notify suspected COVID-19 cases by completing the notification form either [ONLINE](#) or by printing out the notification form.

Series of National Guidelines (SoNG)

The [latest iteration](#) was released on **24** August 2020.

Business and Industry

See latest updates about how the Western Australian Government is supporting business and industry [economic recovery](#) through COVID-19.

Resources for more information

- Latest [Australian Health Protection Principal Committee \(AHPPC\) News](#)
- [WA Department of Health](#)
- [HealthyWA](#)
- [Australian Government Health Department](#)
- [Advice for the public \(WHO\)](#)
- [Advice in other languages](#)
- [Advice for Aboriginal people](#)

Who to contact for more information

- COVID-19 Clinic ONLY Test Results Enquiry Line: [1800 313 223](#) (Note: **NOT** for GP referred testing or private pathology clinic tests)
- COVID-19 WA Public Information Line: [132 6843 \(13 COVID\)](#)
- COVID-19 Travel Restrictions Exemption Application: Visit the [G2G PASS](#) website or complete the [exemption application form](#)
- COVID-19 WA Police Line: [131 444](#) To report breaches of: self-isolation, business closures, border controls and other State of Emergency Directions.

Next advice - The PHEOC Bulletin is issued weekly. The next issue will be **Tuesday 1 September 2020**.

Last updated 24 August 2020

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

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