

Positive cases, close contacts and critically essential workers

as at 17/1/22

Business/Worker type	What do I have to do?	Returning to work
<p>A worker who is COVID-19 positive</p>	<p>A positive diagnosis is via a PCR or rapid antigen test (RAT) test.</p> <p>You must isolate yourself and inform everyone in your household that you are a COVID-19 positive. Your family or others in your household who are close contacts will need to quarantine. They can quarantine with you while you isolate if they choose. You're not allowed to let anyone else into your home.</p> <p>Isolation means you cannot leave your house or accommodation, except to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek medical treatment at a hospital (such as a person leaving isolation to go to a hospital in an ambulance) • avoid injury or illness or to escape a risk of harm • in an emergency, or when directed by an emergency officer. <p>If you tested positive on a rapid antigen test (RAT), you should report your positive RAT result to Queensland Health.</p>	<p>Before returning to work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolate for 7 days from when your test was taken • Leave isolation on day 7 if you have not had fever and acute respiratory symptoms for the last 48 hours, or if the only remaining symptom is a mild dry cough. <p>If you still have symptoms on day 7, continue isolation until day 10.</p> <p>A health care worker may provide written authorisation or certification that releases you from isolation in certain circumstances.</p> <p>Read more about home isolation.</p>
<p>A worker who is a close contact of a positive case</p>	<p>A close contact is a household member or household-like person who has spent more than 4 hours with you in your house or other accommodation.</p> <p>You are not a household-like contact if you are in a separate part of the house, accommodation or care facility that has a separate point of entry and no shared common areas.</p> <p>You will need to quarantine for 7 days in case you're carrying the virus and be tested on day 6 using a rapid antigen test (RAT) (or a PCR test if you cannot obtain a RAT)</p> <p>Quarantine means you must not leave the house or accommodation, except to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • get a COVID-19 test as required by a public health direction or if directed to do so by an emergency officer. • transport a diagnosed person or close contact you are quarantining with to get a COVID-19 test • to avoid injury or illness or to escape a risk of harm • in an emergency, or when directed by an emergency officer • perform work as a critically essential worker. <p>If you tested positive on a rapid antigen test (RAT), you should report your positive RAT result to Queensland Health.</p>	<p>Before returning to work</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarantine for 7 days (this can be in the same place as the diagnosed person) • Receive a negative result for a RAT or PCR test taken on Day 6 of your quarantine. <p>If you start to develop symptoms, get a PCR test and quarantine while you wait for the result.</p> <p>Read more about close contact quarantine.</p>
<p>A critically essential worker (close contact only)</p>	<p>An employer in a critical industry may require a close contact to attend the workplace to carry out a critically essential role. They must create a Critical Worker List identifying these roles, provide it to the government and have it available if an emergency officer wants to review it.</p> <p>Employers are required to undertake a self-assessment process to identify if they are in an essential industry and what roles are critical to the continuation of services.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Decide if your business falls into the list of critical industries and approved ANZSIC categories 2. Register to access the COVID-19 Services Portal - Queensland Health 3. Select the 'submit roles in your business as a critically essential worker' tile and complete the form. The form will ask you to identify the roles and estimated number of workers in each role. <p>As a close contact, you will need to be fully vaccinated and have no COVID-19 symptoms to attend work to undertake the critically essential role.</p> <p>If you develop COVID-19 like symptoms, you should return to quarantine immediately.</p>	<p>Employers should follow the requirements for self-determining critically essential workers and provide a Critical Worker List (of roles) to the Queensland Government. Refer to DAF's eHub – Critically essential roles and business continuity planning</p> <p>If a worker meets the requirements of a critically essential worker, they can leave their accommodation to attend work.</p> <p>Until their quarantine ends, these workers must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • use a mask when indoors. Also wear a mask outdoors if you cannot physically distance from others • travel to and from your workplace by private transport, by the most direct route practicable and without stopping (except for refuelling) • monitor your symptoms • regularly clean your hands • get tested on day 6 of your quarantine period, just as any other close contact would do before the end of their quarantine • physically distance yourself from other people • comply with any industry or employer requirements