

Enquiries to:

Office of the Chief Health Officer

Deputy Director-General

Queensland Health

File Ref: C-ECTF-21/8812

**Queensland Health** 

Mr Tom Sexton
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## Dear Mr Sexton

I am writing to seek your assistance with communicating Queensland border entry requirements as we near the next school holiday break.

I understand that there are students who attend school in Victoria and their family are resident in Queensland. These students may be seeking to return to Queensland for the upcoming school holiday period and they need to be aware of Queensland's requirements on their return. These requirements are outlined in the *Border Restrictions Direction*.

Queensland has declared all 36 Local Government Areas comprising Greater Melbourne as COVID-19 hotspots; no other areas in Victoria are declared hotspots. This means that persons wishing to enter Queensland who have been in a COVID-19 hotspot in the 14 days prior to their arrival in our State must:

- complete a Queensland Border Declaration Pass prior to arrival in Queensland; and
- only arrive in Queensland by air; and
- have a parent, legal guardian or responsible adult accompany them from their point of arrival into Queensland; and
- have a consenting parent, legal guardian or responsible adult to enter quarantine with them; and
- quarantine in a government managed quarantine facility for 14 days at their own expense on entry.

The above requirements will also apply to any students who attend school in regional Victoria, but, in the 14 days prior to their entry to Queensland, have visited Greater Melbourne. Students who are **not** minors (18 years or older) may quarantine on their own in a government managed facility.

Students who only transit through Greater Melbourne are not taken to have been in a COVID-19 hotspot and will **not** be required to quarantine on arrival in Queensland. If a student transits by air, then they must not leave the confines of the airport. If the transit is by road in a private vehicle then they can only stop for essential fuel and fatigue management, wearing a face mask at all times during any periods outside of their private vehicle.

Under Queensland's public health directions, a person may apply for an exemption from the above requirements, and these are considered on a case-by-case basis. There must be extremely exceptional circumstances to warrant the granting of an exemption.

The following links should assist students, and their parents, in understanding Queensland's requirements:

- Public Health Directions: <a href="https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers">https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers</a>
- COVID-19 Hotspots: <a href="https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/declared-hotspots-direction">https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers/declared-hotspots-direction</a>
- Queensland Border Declaration Pass: <a href="https://www.qld.gov.au/border-pass">https://www.qld.gov.au/border-pass</a>
- Exemption request: <a href="https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/exemptions">https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/current-status/public-health-directions/exemptions</a>

I would be grateful if you would distribute the above information to your member schools to communicate with their students and parents. While we are continuing to actively monitor the border requirements for Victoria, it is hoped that the above information may assist your school communities to prepare for the upcoming school holidays should border controls still be in place.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young PSM

**Queensland Chief Health Officer** 

Deputy Director-General Queensland Health

14 June 2021