

# Frequently Asked Questions - COVID-19

Below is a list of questions members have been asking and the advice MPAQ has received on how this lockdown and the restrictions across Queensland will affect our members and their businesses. Please note this information may change as the lockdown progresses and we will endeavor to keep members informed as things progress.

## **Q1. Is Plumbing and Gas Fitting considered essential work?**

Yes, MPAQ has been advocating that plumbing and gas fitting remain an essential service during lockdown. Construction and building/maintenance works in the lockdown areas can continue.

## **Q2. If my employees can't work from home - what do I do?**

As plumbing and gas fitting is deemed essential work, your employees can continue to work during the lockdown but must stay home unless for the reasons outlined by QLD Health, when they finish work.

## **Q3. My employee lives in the lockdown area but our work is outside this area, can they still undertake work?**

Yes, your employee can still work outside the lockdown area but when they return home they are to continue the lockdown measures and only go out for essential purposes (as outlined by QLD Health).

## **Q4. We are based outside the lockdown area but have to work within the lockdown area, can we still do that work?**

Yes, you can still do that work, but when each employee returns home after work, they must follow the lockdown requirements and only go out for essential purposes.

## **Q5. Do masks need to be worn outside of the house?**

QLD Health advises that all Queenslanders inside the lockdown area, or who have been in the lockdown area in the last 14 days, must carry a mask with you when you leave your home, unless for a lawful reason not to, and the mask must be worn anywhere outside of your home, including in rideshares, on public transport and in workplaces.

- It is strongly recommended to wear a mask when outdoors if you are unable to maintain more than 1.5m social distance from others.
- Masks do **not** need to be worn in certain workplaces where it is **not** safe to do so.

- You can remove your mask to consume food or drink or undertaking strenuous exercise.
- Masks do not need to be worn in private vehicles where other passengers are members of the same household. If employees are sharing the vehicle, then they would need to wear a mask whilst driving.

**Q6. My employee believes they were at the same venue and time as someone who has tested positive for COVID 19, what do they need to do?**

- If the employee is considered a [Close Contact](#), they must quarantine for 14 days from the date they were at the location and complete the contact tracing self-assessment.
- If the employee is considered a [Casual Contact](#), they must get tested immediately and quarantine until a negative result is obtained.
- If the employee is considered a [Low-Risk Contact](#), they do not necessarily need to get tested but need to monitor their symptoms.

**Q7. My employee lives outside the lockdown region, but went into a lockdown area in the last 14 days, what do we do?**

The employee can still continue to work, but must maintain the lockdown procedures that apply to Greater Brisbane and isolate when they get home each day, unless for an essential reason outlined above. If they visited a hotspot (identified by QLD Health) they would be required to get tested and self-isolate until they return a negative result.

**Q8. Does my employee need to carry any documentation to prove they are an essential worker?**

If you are traveling to and from an identified lockdown location, it is suggested you have:

- Personal identification on you;
- Your plumbing licence on you;
- If not a plumber, then have something in writing from the employer to confirm employment. Please [click here](#) for a suggested basic letter template you can provide to your employees – please note this template is not a Government approved template and is just for your assistance.

**Q9. Are there fines if I don't comply with lockdown requirements?**

Yes, if you don't comply you may be given an on-the-spot fine of \$1,334 for individuals and \$6,670 for corporations, a court-imposed penalty of up to \$13,345, or 6 months' imprisonment.

The penalty for not wearing a mask is \$200.