

Protecting yourself from coronavirus

Non-essential indoor gatherings of fewer than 100 people



This interim guidance is based on what is currently known about coronavirus (COVID-19). The Tasmanian Government will update interim guidance as needed and as additional information becomes available. This interim guidance is to help everyone plan for community transmission of coronavirus in Tasmania. There is **much to learn about its transmissibility, severity, and other features of the disease.** We want to help everyone prepare their response to this public health threat.

On advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee, the Australian Government has announced that non-essential indoor gatherings of more than 100 people are no longer permitted.

Social distancing is critical because COVID-19 is most likely to spread by close contact with an infected person, or by contact with droplets from an infected person's uncovered cough or sneeze.

So, the more space between you and others, the harder it is for the virus to spread.

In the current situation, it is unacceptable to be in overcrowded rooms. Non-essential gatherings of fewer than 100 people must comply with the following requirements.

Density

In a given occupied space, there must be a density of no more than one person per 4 square metres of floor space – this is about 1.5 metres, or two large steps, between people.

Hygiene

The best way to minimise risk is through good hygiene measures. Services should:

- Ensure that spaces at each facility, surfaces and objects are regularly cleaned with disinfectant;
- **Provide hand washing guidance**
- Promote regular and thorough hand washing by staff and participants;
- Provide sanitising hand rub dispensers in prominent places around the event, particularly entry or high use areas such as registration desk, change rooms, toilets or kiosk, and make sure dispensers are regularly refilled; and
- Promote exclusion of people who are unwell.

Venue operators are responsible for ensuring the requirements are observed.

Indoor Gathering Exemptions

These restrictions do not apply to the following:

- public transportation facilities
- medical and health care facilities
- pharmacies
- emergency service facilities
- correctional facilities
- youth justice centres or other places of custody, courts or tribunals
- Parliaments
- food markets, supermarkets and grocery stores
- shopping centres
- office buildings
- factories
- construction sites
- mining sites
- freight and logistics terminals

Social distance and hygiene practices are still required in all of the 'essential gathering' settings.

This information is accurate at 2pm Saturday 21 March 2020 and is guided by the Prime Minister's statement:
www.pm.gov.au/media/update-coronavirus-measures-0