

## Queensland border restrictions and passes

### Frequently asked questions

Travel between Queensland and New South Wales is high risk. Compliance with all aspects of an exemption or endorsement is critical. Expect compliance checks to be made.

Please avoid travelling into NSW.

#### **General requirements**

- Farmers and agribusinesses should cease their plans to cross the border to reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19, unless absolutely vital.
- The COVID-19 Delta variant is a significant risk to each of you and your families, with our border being one of the last lines of defence. Restrictions are tightening, and compliance efforts are increasing.
- It is time to review your business continuity plans to ensure critical operations can continue locally and are not impeded as the public health requirements tighten.
- Anyone who is permitted to enter Queensland from a hotspot must:
  - remain isolated from the general public while in Queensland
  - carry all relevant documentation with them
  - have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result received within 7 days prior to entering Queensland
  - have evidence that they have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine (except freight and logistics workers entering under a F-pass).
  - wear a mask at all times if they have been in the border zone in the last 14 days.
  - follow stay-at-home rules
- Freight and logistics operators can continue to operate under the National Freight Protocol and must maintain rolling testing for COVID-19.

#### **Types of Queensland border passes—[Entry to Queensland](#)**

- **Border Zone Travel (X Pass)** – For New South Wales border zone residents entering Queensland for an essential purpose or a Queensland resident who entered the New South Wales border zone and are re-entering Queensland.
- **Class exemption (Z pass)** – A class exemption granted by the Chief Health Officer for farmers and agribusinesses moving between Queensland and the NSW border zone until 30 November 2021 unless amended or revoked prior.
- **Specialist or essential worker (S Pass)** – A specialist or essential worker is a critical worker in the agribusiness supply chain who needs to cross the Queensland border from a hotspot and is not captured by the farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption.
- **Freight and Logistics Pass (F Pass)** – For those that have been in or transited through a currently declared COVID-19 hotspot in the previous 14 days and are requesting entry to Queensland to provide essential freight and logistics transport.

#### **Frequently asked questions**

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## General

- 1) *I am a farmer crossing the border regularly from my farm in the NSW border zone to my farm in Queensland. What are my travel restrictions? Do I need to apply for the pass on each entry?*

Travel between Queensland and NSW is high risk and must be avoided if at all possible. If you have farms on both sides of the Queensland–NSW border and within the NSW border zone, you can use the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption* to travel between the NSW border zone and Queensland. You must only remain in Queensland for the time necessary to perform the essential farming activities and remain isolated from the general public in Queensland for 14 days or until you return to NSW. You will need to prepare a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that describes how you will remain isolated from the general community.

You cannot travel outside the NSW border zone. You can only travel across the border to perform essential agribusiness services, and not for any other reason (e.g. recreational purposes or to visit family).

To enter Queensland, you will need to apply for a [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass. You will need to have evidence that you have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before your return. You must carry with you the [class exemption letter](#), the border pass, your Quarantine Management Plan, personal identification, and evidence of your farm ownership (e.g. rates notice) or employment.

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

- 2) *What evidence do I need to provide if I wish to enter under the ‘Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption’?*

You will need to provide the following evidence:

- that you have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine
- a negative COVID-19 test result received within 7 days prior to entering Queensland
- that you have maintained a rolling 7-day testing cycle while they continue to travel into and out of the border zone
- a [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass
- your identity confirming a place of residence, for example a driver licence
- employment, contract, property ownership, lease or agistment arrangements.
- a copy of the [class exemption letter](#).

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

- 3) *Why should I comply with the public health directives?*

The emergence of new strains, such as the COVID-19 Delta variant, are testing Australia’s public health response. One mistake could jeopardise the great work that our farming and agribusiness sector, together with all Queenslanders, have done to keep our communities safe, especially those in regional areas.

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If you fail to comply with the requirements for travelling to Queensland you may be subject to enforcement, including an on the spot fine of between \$1378 to \$4135, a court-imposed penalty of up to \$13,785 or 6 months imprisonment.

#### 4) *What are the stay-at-home requirements?*

A Queensland resident who has travelled into NSW border zone under a relevant pass (X pass, Z pass) must comply with stay-at-home requirements in a private residence on return to Queensland. Under these requirements, you must not leave the private residence except:

- to obtain a COVID-19 test
- to avoid immediate injury or illness or to escape a risk of harm
- in the event of an emergency situation
- to obtain food or other essential goods or services
- to obtain essential medical care or supplies or to fulfil carer's responsibilities
- to perform essential work, where the work cannot reasonably be performed from the residence
- exercising outdoors alone or with members of the household
- to obtain a COVID-19 vaccination, where you don't have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19
- for an end-of-life visit (with exemption from the Chief Health Officer and permission from the operator of the facility)
- to leave Queensland by air (except if identified as a close contact)
- as otherwise required under a direction given by an emergency officer (public health).

Further, up to 2 visitors per day are allowed to enter the residence, in addition to a person who:

- usually resides at the residence
- is required to enter the residence in an emergency
- is entering to provide essential health care
- is otherwise permitted to enter under a direction given by an emergency officer (public health).

A border zone resident that needs to stay overnight or longer in Queensland to complete an essential purpose must observe stay at home requirements.

#### 5) *How long does a border pass last?*

A [Queensland Entry Pass](#) (Z pass, X pass, F pass and S pass) is valid for 14 days from the date you complete it.

Once you receive your [Queensland entry pass](#) you will need to enter Queensland within 14 days. If you don't enter within this time, you will need to apply for new Queensland Border Pass.

You must complete the pass in the 3 days before you travel to Queensland. If you have not received an outcome on your application within 3 business days, contact [134 COVID \(13 42 68\)](#).

If you are doing subsequent entry and exits to Queensland over a period of time, you will need to apply for a pass every 14 days.

6) *Do I need to have had a COVID-19 vaccine to enter Queensland?*

Anyone entering Queensland under the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption, Essential or specialist worker exemption*, or Border Zone Travel Pass—X pass must have evidence that at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine has been administered.

It is highly recommended that freight and logistics operators under the National Freight Protocol also have a COVID-19 vaccine.

7) *What evidence do I need to provide if I wish to apply for an 'other essential worker' exemption to enter Queensland?*

You will need to provide evidence of:

- a written explanation of the essential activity you will be undertaking in Queensland
- documentation that demonstrates why this service is critical to Queensland
- why this activity cannot be performed by someone in Queensland
- a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that details how you will remain isolated from anyone else in Queensland
- a [COVID-safe checklist and associated work health and safety risk management framework \(e.g. a Health Management Plan\)](#) from the Queensland business employing the specialist worker
- at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

**Process:** Apply through the [COVID-19 services portal](#)

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Border Pass](#)—X Pass

8) *What evidence do I need to provide if I wish to apply for an essential worker outside of the NSW border zone to enter Queensland?*

You will need to provide evidence of:

- a written explanation of the essential activity you will be undertaking in Queensland
- documentation that demonstrates why this service is critical to Queensland
- why this activity cannot be performed by someone in Queensland
- a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that details how you will remain isolated from anyone else in Queensland
- a COVID- safe checklist and associated work health and safety risk management framework (e.g. a Health Management Plan) from the Queensland business employing the specialist worker
- at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

**Process:** Apply through the [COVID-19 services portal](#)

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)— specialist or essential worker—S Pass

9) *I am eligible to travel between Queensland and the NSW border zone to undertake essential work. Can I attend functions in NSW (e.g. a funeral)?*

No. Exemptions to enter Queensland from the NSW border zone to undertake essential work (the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption* or *Essential or specialist worker exemption*) do not apply if you have undertaken other activities in the NSW border zone, such as attending a funeral or wedding, participating in sport or holidaying. If you are a Queensland resident returning to Queensland, you will be required to comply with general quarantine requirements to quarantine in a nominated premises for 14 days. If you're a NSW resident, you're not permitted to enter Queensland for these purposes.

**Process:** No access

10) *I live in Queensland and have a small property with cattle/horses in the NSW border zone. Can I travel across the border to tend to my animals and return to Queensland?*

No. Exemptions are only available for commercial agribusinesses that are critical. You will need to make arrangements with someone in NSW to look after your animals.

**Process:** No access

11) *If farmers or farm workers have trouble entering Queensland who can we call?*

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries is taking calls to assist in clarifying eligibility to enter Queensland. Regional staff are able to talk to the Queensland Police Service (QPS) staff at the border crossing points, however entry to Queensland is still at the discretion of QPS.

**Please call the DAF on 13 25 23.**

12) *I am an agricultural worker entering Queensland from the Northern Territory, what are my entry requirements?*

There are currently no hotspots declared in the Northern Territory, so you are able to enter Queensland. You must still complete a [Queensland Entry Pass](#) before entering Queensland.

If hotspots are declared within the Northern Territory, you would need to apply for an exemption as an essential or specialist worker.

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)

13) *Can screening be done through rapid antigen/saliva tests in pork processing and egg packing plants?*

Currently, rapid antigen / saliva testing is not used in Queensland to test for COVID-19. As COVID-19 is a notifiable disease, all testing providers must immediately report any positive test results to Queensland Health. If anyone has received a positive result from a rapid antigen test they should immediately seek confirmation through a standard PCR test.

14) *I have been performing Rapid Antigen Testing for my farming staff can they use this as evidence of a negative COVID-19 result when crossing the border?*

No. Only the test results from a PCR test performed and analysed by a recognised service provider can be used to provide evidence of a negative COVID-19 test.

## Animal industries specific questions

- 15) *I am a registered veterinarian who treats large animals. Am I able to continue to travel across the Queensland–NSW border to provide veterinary services?*

You can only cross the Queensland–NSW border and travel within the NSW border zone to provide emergency or time critical treatment for cattle, horses or other livestock where the veterinary service is not available in that area and there is a critical need to provide the service to avoid significant adverse animal welfare outcomes. Examples include severe colic treatment or colic surgery, severe dystocia (calving/foaling problems) where veterinary intervention is required, respiratory distress etc.

You will need to apply online for a [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z pass and follow the requirements in the class exemption letter, including evidence of a negative COVID-19 test result within the last 7 days and that you have had at least the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccination.

You should stay in NSW for the minimum possible time to carry out the critical work, and you will need to prepare a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that describes how you will remain isolated from the general community.

Returning Queensland residents will need to follow stay-at-home requirements for 14 days.

You are not able to cross the Queensland–NSW border to provide routine veterinary treatment or other services, e.g. drenching/worming, vaccination, pre-purchase examinations. You are not allowed to travel outside the NSW border zone.

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

- 16) *I am a commercial **beekeeper and transporter** and need to cross the border with the bees for timely pollination activities. Can I still do so?*

If the movement is vital and time critical, commercial beekeepers can enter Queensland under the freight and logistics worker category. You must have a minimum of 50 hives and are registered as a commercial beekeeper in Queensland on your Registered Biosecurity Entity. You will need to apply online for a [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass. You will need to have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before entering Queensland and maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle.

If you exited your vehicle in an affected area, you need to have had a COVID-19 test taken in the 72 hours immediately prior to entering Queensland and to maintain a rolling 3-day testing cycle until you leave Queensland, or 14 days have passed, whichever is shorter.

Beekeepers need to keep a work diary to manage fatigue if they are travelling more than 100 km from their home base.

It is recommended that you also have a COVID-19 vaccination.

**Process:** Queensland Freight Protocol

**Type of pass required:** [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass

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17) *I am a beekeeper hobbyist and need to cross the border to look after my hives. Can I still do so?*

No. Exemptions are only available for commercial agribusinesses that are critical to Queensland. Hobby beekeepers are not eligible to enter Queensland from a hot spot.

18) *I live in the NSW border zone and commute daily to an abattoir in Queensland to work on the boning floor. I have specialised skills to carry out the work on special machines as well as manual precise boning techniques. Can I enter Queensland to work?*

Travel between NSW and Queensland should be avoided if at all possible. The Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption does not cover meat workers, however there are exemptions for essential workers to come into Queensland from the NSW border zone, but these are only granted for critical reasons. This means that without the worker, the facility or industry may be unable to continue and that there is no-one else in Queensland who can perform that work.

If your work is critical to abattoir operations and the facility or industry may be unable to continue and that there is no-one else in Queensland who can perform that work, you or your employer can apply for an exemption as an '[Other Essential Worker](#)'. Allow at least 7 days for processing.

You will need to provide evidence of:

- a written explanation of the essential activity you will be undertaking in Queensland
- documentation that demonstrates why this service is critical to Queensland
- why this activity cannot be performed by someone in Queensland
- a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that details how you will remain isolated from anyone else in Queensland
- a [COVID-safe checklist and associated work health and safety risk management framework \(e.g. a Health Management Plan\)](#) from the Queensland business
- at least the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

If your exemption is endorsed, apply for a [Border Zone Travel Pass](#)—X Pass.

You must carry your letter of endorsement and quarantine management plan while in Queensland and comply with your quarantine management plan at all times. You cannot travel outside the NSW border zone.

**Process:** Apply through the [COVID-19 services portal](#)

**Type of pass required:** [Border Zone Travel Pass](#)—X Pass

19) *I am in an intensive animal production industry. What happens if one of my workers tests positive to COVID-19?*

It is not possible to be definitive about what actions will be required should a positive case emerge at a workplace. The response will depend on factors such as:

- how long the person was at the workplace
- what activities the person undertook in the workplace
- what contact the person had at the workplace
- the likelihood or not of contamination of the workplace

- measures in place in the workplace to prevent cross contamination and to maintain social distancing.

This will be determined by the local public health unit. It is likely that any identified close contacts will be directed to quarantine for 14 days and undertake regular testing and will not be permitted to work during this time.

It is recommended that you review your [COVID-safe checklist and associated work health and safety risk management framework \(e.g. a Health Management Plan\)](#) and update where necessary to ensure that it is still fit for purpose in the current situation.

It is recommended that you continue to review your business continuity plans.

## Plant or cropping industries specific questions

20) *I am a specialist agronomist and my client's crop in the NSW border zone needs inspection and assessment before harvest. I have looked at video footage that my client has sent, it is critical that I physically inspect the crop and no other agronomist in the region is able to get to the property. What do I need to do to get access to my client?*

Travel between NSW and Queensland must be avoided if at all possible. If the crop inspection is time critical and there is no-one in NSW able to make the inspection, you can use the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption* to travel within the NSW border zone and return to Queensland. You should stay in NSW for the minimum possible time to carry out the critical work, and you will need to prepare a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that describes how you will remain isolated from the general community.

You are not able to cross the Queensland–NSW border to provide routine services or general advice. You cannot travel outside the NSW border zone.

To return to Queensland, you will need to apply for a [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z pass. You will need evidence that you have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before your return. You must carry with you the [class exemption letter](#), the border pass, your Quarantine Management Plan, personal identification, and evidence of your employment.

Once you return to Queensland, you will need to follow stay-at-home requirements for 14 days.

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

21) *I own and manage a farm with legumes and other crops on detached lots that are located on either side of the Queensland-NSW border. Am I able to freely move across the farms by public roads and through the checkpoint?*

Travel to NSW should be delayed or avoided if at all possible. If you have farms that are dissected by the Queensland–NSW border, you can use the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption* to travel within the NSW border zone and return to Queensland. You should stay in NSW for the minimum possible time to carry out the critical work, and you will need to prepare a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that describes how you will remain isolated from the general community.

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You cannot travel outside the NSW border zone. You can only travel across the border to perform essential agribusiness services, and not for any other reason (e.g. recreational purposes or to visit family).

To return to Queensland, you will need to apply for a [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z pass. You will need to have evidence that you have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before your return. You must carry with you the [class exemption letter](#), the border pass, your Quarantine Management Plan, personal identification, and evidence of your farm ownership (e.g. rates notice) or employment.

Once you return to Queensland, follow the stay-at-home requirements for 14 days.

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

22) *I am involved in the grain harvest, working at grain receival depots on either side of the Queensland–NSW border. What are the requirements for travel across the border?*

If you are a resident of Queensland or the NSW border zone, performing essential activities for the grain harvest, you may be eligible to cross the border under the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption*. This exemption would apply only to specialist farm machinery operators, including harvest machinery operators; and specialist technicians, including for silos and storage.

If you have come from a hotspot other than the NSW border zone, you will need to apply for an exemption as an *Essential or specialist worker*.

You will need to provide evidence of:

- a written explanation of the essential activity you will be undertaking in Queensland
- documentation that demonstrates why this service is critical to Queensland
- why this activity cannot be performed by someone in Queensland
- a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that details how you will remain isolated from anyone else in Queensland
- a [COVID-safe checklist and associated work health and safety risk management framework \(e.g. a Health Management Plan\)](#) from the Queensland business employing the specialist worker
- at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

You must carry your letter of endorsement and quarantine management plan while in Queensland and comply with your quarantine management plan at all times.

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

23) *My company is moving large grain harvesters in a convoy, along with support vehicles and workers. Can we enter Queensland and move across the border between properties?*

Harvesters, along with support vehicles and support or logistics workers, can enter Queensland under the National Freight Protocol. It is strongly recommended that you travel in convoy and bring all essential workers across the border together with the harvester vehicles. Essential workers required to support the harvest and

logistics who travel in the convoy with the heavy vehicles are able to travel into Queensland under the F pass.

All workers will need to apply for a [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass and follow the requirements of the National Freight Protocol to enter Queensland. They will need to have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before entering Queensland and maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle.

If anyone exited their vehicle in an affected area, they would need a COVID-19 test taken in the 72 hours immediately prior to entering Queensland and to maintain a rolling 3-day testing cycle for 14 days or until they leave Queensland.

It is recommended that you prepare a movement plan that describes your intended route and travel across the border and identifies how all workers will remain isolated from the general community.

**Process:** Queensland Freight Protocol

**Type of pass required:** [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass

### Allied industries supporting farmers

- 24) *I am harvester mechanic residing in Queensland and my clients are preparing for the upcoming harvest in NSW. Can I travel across the border and back into Queensland?*

Travel to NSW should be delayed or avoided if at all possible. If your work is essential to the agribusiness supply chain, time critical and no other provider is available, you can use the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption* to travel within the NSW border zone and return to Queensland. You should stay in NSW for the minimum possible time to carry out the critical work, and you will need to prepare a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that describes how you will remain isolated from the general community.

You cannot travel outside the NSW border zone.

To return to Queensland, you will need to apply for a [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z pass. You will need to have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before your return. You must carry with you the [class exemption letter](#), the border pass, your Quarantine Management Plan, personal identification, and evidence of your farm ownership (e.g. rates notice) or employment.

Once you return to Queensland, you will need to follow stay-at-home requirements for 14 days.

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

- 25) *Does the class exemption cover the farms or business' workers and employees?*

It is recognised that most farms have employees that are farming and if those employees are essential for time critical farming they are covered by the exemption.

Travel to NSW should be delayed or avoided if at all possible. If the work of the employees is essential to the agribusiness supply chain and time critical, you can use the *Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption* to travel within the NSW border zone and return to Queensland. You should stay in NSW for the minimum

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possible time to carry out the critical work, and you will need to prepare a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that describes how you will remain isolated from the general community.

You cannot travel outside the NSW [border zone](#).

To return to Queensland, you will need to apply for a [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z pass. You will need to have evidence that you have had at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine and evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before your return. You must carry with you the [class exemption letter](#), the border pass, your Quarantine Management Plan, personal identification, and evidence of your farm ownership (e.g. rates notice) or employment.

Once you return to Queensland, you will need to follow stay-at-home requirements for 14 days. You can only leave the residence for permitted reasons, including:

- to perform essential farming or agribusiness work, and the work is of a nature that cannot reasonably be performed from your place of residence
- to obtain food or other goods or services for the personal needs of the household
- to obtain essential medical care or supplies or to fulfil carer's responsibilities
- to exercise outdoors alone or with members of the household where you are staying
- to obtain another COVID-19 vaccination in Queensland, provided that you have no symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

26) *I provide technical sales support work and reside in the New South Wales border zone. I need to travel to Queensland farms to advise farmers harvesting in a fortnight. What are the conditions on my movements?*

No. Your travel would not be regarded as essential or critical and you will not be permitted to enter Queensland. It would be best to communicate with your clients by phone or online. You may wish to establish arrangements with work colleagues on the other side of the border to enable client business support.

**Process:** No access

27) *I am an agricultural teacher based in Armidale and I come up to schools in Queensland to discuss agricultural careers. Can I still come through to Queensland?*

No. Armidale is outside the NSW border zone, and the work is not essential agribusiness work. The skillset could be sourced within Queensland.

**Process:** No access

28) *I am in NSW and supply agricultural inputs such as pesticides, fertilisers, and tyres. Can I enter Queensland?*

Travel between Queensland and NSW is high risk and must be avoided if at all possible. There are exemptions for essential workers to come into Queensland, but these are only

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granted for critical reasons. This means that the work is so essential that without the worker, the facility or industry may be unable to continue, and that there is no-one else in Queensland who can perform that work.

A supplier of general agricultural inputs would not be eligible for an exemption. You may be able to continue providing sales and advice virtually and use a commercial freight company to deliver any products.

**Process:** No access

- 29) *Are specialist technicians from NSW outside the border zone able to enter Queensland under the class exemption?*

No. The class exemption only applies to residents of Queensland and the NSW border zone.

Travel between hotspots and Queensland must be avoided if at all possible. There are exemptions for essential workers to come into Queensland, but these are only granted for critical reasons. This means that the work is so essential that without the worker, the facility or industry may be unable to continue, and that there is no-one else in Queensland who can perform that work.

If you believe you meet these criteria, you can follow the process apply for an exemption as an Essential or specialist worker through the [COVID-19 services portal](#).

**Process:** Apply through the [COVID-19 services portal](#)

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—specialist or essential worker —S Pass

- 30) *I am based in Queensland and provide specialist agronomic services throughout Queensland and the New South Wales border zone. If I enter NSW under the class exemption to provide time critical services, can I continue to service clients when I return to Queensland?*

If you travel in the NSW border zone and re-enter Queensland under the class exemption, you must comply with the requirements to stay home in Queensland under Part 6A of the [Border Restrictions Direction](#).

The requirements are that you must stay at a private residence and only leave for a permitted purpose, including to perform essential work where the work cannot reasonably be performed from your residence.

You will need to follow COVID-safe practices, including isolating, maintaining physical distancing, keeping records of your contacts and following the requirements in your [Quarantine Management Plan](#) (e.g. wearing a mask, arranging appointments or work so that contact with others does not occur).

**Process:** Farmer and agribusiness worker class exemption

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)—class exemption—Z Pass

## Fishing industry

- 31) *I am a commercial fishing operator living in the NSW border zone and working from Queensland. Can I cross the border to come to work?*

Travel between NSW and Queensland must be avoided if at all possible. There are exemptions for essential workers to come into Queensland, but these are

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only granted for critical reasons. This means that the work is so essential that without the worker, the facility or industry may be unable to continue, and that there is no one else in Queensland who can perform that work.

It is unlikely that a general commercial fishing operator would meet these criteria. If you believe your work is so essential that without the work, the facility or industry may be unable to continue, and there is no one else in Queensland who can perform that work, you can apply for an exemption as an 'Other essential worker'. Allow at least 7 days for processing.

You will need to provide evidence of:

- a written explanation of the essential activity you will be undertaking in Queensland
- documentation that demonstrates why this service is critical to Queensland
- why this activity can't be performed by someone in Queensland
- a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that details how you will remain isolated from anyone else in Queensland
- a [COVID-safe checklist and associated work health and safety risk management framework \(e.g. a Health Management Plan\)](#) from the Queensland business
- at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

If your exemption is endorsed, apply for a [Border Zone Travel Pass](#)—X Pass.

You must carry your letter of endorsement and quarantine management plan while in Queensland and comply with your quarantine management plan at all times. You cannot travel outside the NSW border zone.

**Process:** Apply through the [COVID-19 services portal](#)

**Type of pass required:** [Border Zone Travel Pass](#)—X Pass

## **Agricultural transport related industries**

### *32) Can I transport livestock or agricultural produce across the border into Queensland?*

Livestock and produce can be transported across the border as commercial freight.

All operators will need to apply for a [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass and follow the requirements of the National Freight Protocol to enter Queensland. They will need to have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before entering Queensland and maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle.

If anyone exited their vehicle in an affected area, they will need a COVID-19 test taken in the 72 hours immediately prior to entering Queensland and to maintain a rolling 3-day testing cycle for 14 days or until they leave Queensland.

Freight and logistics operators who are border zone residents, who have not been to a COVID-19 hotspot outside of the border zone may enter with a valid F pass as above or with a valid XQ and XN pass.

Freight and logistics operators entering under a XQ or XN pass must have evidence of at least the first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine being administered. The 7-day testing requirement does not apply.

It is recommended that you prepare a movement plan that describes your intended route and travel across the border and identifies how all workers will remain isolated from the general community.

**Process:** Queensland Freight Protocol

**Type of pass required:** [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass or [Border Zone Travel](#)—X pass

- 33) *I am an agricultural freight and logistics operator operating throughout Queensland and New South Wales. What are the rules and restrictions that I need to follow?*

All operators will need to apply for a [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass and follow the requirements of the National Freight Protocol to enter Queensland. They will need to have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before entering Queensland and maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle.

If anyone exited their vehicle in an affected area, they will need a COVID-19 test taken in the 72 hours immediately prior to entering Queensland and to maintain a rolling 3-day testing cycle for 14 days or until they leave Queensland.

**Process:** Queensland Freight Protocol

**Type of pass required:** [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass

- 34) *Are there any changes to the Freight Protocol? Where can I get further information on the freight protocol?*

You can get further information on the freight protocol and access the most recent versions by visiting [Queensland Health](#).

- 35) *I am an agricultural freight and logistics operator operating only between Queensland and the New South Wales border zone. What are the rules and restrictions that I need to follow?*

If you do not travel outside the New South Wales border zone, you can enter Queensland by following the requirements under either the [Freight and Logistics Pass](#)—F pass, or the [Border Zone Travel Pass](#)—XN or XQ pass.

If you travel under the Freight and Logistics pass (F pass), you must adhere to the testing requirements, including a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days prior to entering Queensland, and a rolling 7-day testing cycle.

If you travel under a Border Zone Travel Pass (XN or XQ pass), you must have evidence you have had least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccination.

**Process:** Queensland Freight Protocol

**Type of pass:** [Freight and Logistics](#)—F pass or [Border Zone Travel](#)—X Pass

- 36) *I have returned from the NSW border zone and am subject to the stay-at-home requirements. My spouse is a teacher—are they subject to the same stay-at-home requirements and can they work?*

Only the person working in the NSW border zone is subject to the 'Stay at home requirements' for 14 days after they entered the NSW border zone. Other residents of

the house can continue their daily activities, only 2 other people are able to visit your private residence per day.

If you were to test positive for COVID-19 as part of your rolling 7-day testing cycle then the whole household will be classed as close contacts and subject to home quarantine arrangements.

39) *I have a worker who needs to pick up a truck load of apples from our farm at in the border zone? Can I do this?*

Yes. You will need to abide by the National Freight Protocol and apply online for a [Freight and Logistics](#) —F pass and keep a work diary to manage fatigue if they are travelling more than 100 km from their home base.

You will need to have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before entering Queensland and maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle.

**Process:** Queensland Freight Protocol

**Type of pass:** [Freight and Logistics Pass](#) —F pass

40) *I normally deliver processed food products into NSW using a refrigerated van. Can I still do that under the new border directions?*

Yes. You will need to abide by the National Freight Protocol and apply online for a [Freight and Logistics](#) —F pass and keep a work diary to manage fatigue if they are travelling more than 100 km from their home base.

You will need to have evidence of a negative COVID-19 test within 7 days before entering Queensland and maintain a rolling 7-day testing cycle.

If you exited your vehicle in an affected area, you need to have had a COVID-19 test in the 72 hours immediately prior to entering Queensland and to maintain a rolling 3-day testing cycle until you leave Queensland, or 14 days have passed, whichever is shorter.

**Process:** Queensland Freight Protocol

**Type of pass:** [Freight and Logistics Pass](#) —F pass

41) *Are shearers able to cross the NSW border to enter Queensland from any hotspot including the NSW border zone under the class exemption?*

No. Shearers who are residents of the NSW border zone would not be eligible to enter Queensland under the class exemption. They are able to apply for an exemption to enter as a *Specialist or essential worker* (if outside the border zone), or *Other essential worker* (if a resident of the border zone).

The Queensland farmer or business owner that the shearers will be working for must firstly demonstrate that they have seriously attempted to source workers from Queensland or outside of a hotspot area.

The agribusiness will need to demonstrate why the workers are critical to the Queensland industry and apply for an endorsement through the [COVID-19 services portal](#). You will need to provide evidence of the following:

- a written explanation of the essential activity you will be undertaking in Queensland
- documentation that demonstrates why this service is critical to Queensland
- why this activity cannot be performed by someone in Queensland

## Frequently asked questions

Updated 25 August 2021: Subject to change

- a [Quarantine Management Plan](#) that details how you will remain isolated from anyone else in Queensland
- a [COVID-safe checklist and associated work health and safety risk management framework \(e.g. Health Management Plan\)](#) from the Queensland business employing the specialist worker
- at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine.

We encourage farmers and agribusinesses to review their business continuity plans to ensure operations can continue locally and are not impeded as the public health requirements tighten.

**Process:** Apply through the [COVID-19 services portal](#)

**Type of pass required:** [Queensland Entry Pass](#)— specialist or essential worker —S Pass or [Border Zone Travel](#)—X Pass