

Protecting yourself from coronavirus

Venue closures



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.

As of noon Monday 23 March 2020, some facilities and businesses are restricted from operating.

As of noon Monday 23 March 2020, the following facilities are restricted from operating and must not have patrons on-site:

- Pubs, registered and licenced clubs (excluding bottle shops attached to these venues), hotels (excluding accommodation)
- Gyms and indoor sporting venues
- Cinemas, entertainment venues, casinos, and night clubs
- Restaurants and cafes will be restricted to takeaway and/or home delivery
- Religious gatherings, places of worship or funerals (in enclosed spaces and other than very small groups and where the 1 person per 4 square metre rule applies).

How long will these measures be in place?

- These measures will be in effect from noon 23 March 2020 for a period of one month initially.
- These measures will then be reviewed based on advice from the Australian Health Protection Principal Committee.
- The aim of these measures is to ensure COVID-19 does not spread in our community.
- The Tasmanian and Australian Governments have announced significant support packages for affected businesses.
- The Australian Health Protection Principal Committee will continue to provide advice to the National Cabinet and will develop measures to monitor and assess the effectiveness of these actions.
- The Tasmanian Government is committed to providing ongoing support to the sector as we navigate our way through these uncertain times together.

How will businesses be supported during this time?

- The Tasmanian Government will work with business and industry to provide advice through peak organisations and directly to businesses.
- Both the Tasmanian and Australian Governments have announced significant packages of support with cash payments, tax breaks, and interest free loans to support businesses affected by these necessary changes to help stop the spread of the virus.
- Affected workers will be supported with cash payments, increased jobseeker payments and the ability to access their superannuation early to assist during periods of unemployment relating to COVID-19.
- We will continue to liaise with the sector to understand their needs. We will continue to develop our measures to support Tasmanian organisations through this financially challenging time.

Why are shopping centres still open?

- At this time shopping centres remain open to ensure that the community is able to purchase essential supplies and access services.
- However this is a matter that we will continue to take advice on as the COVID-19 situation continues.

What are the penalties for non-compliance?

- Compliance with the closure measures is compulsory under the law.
- Non-compliance with these measures can lead to fines and penalties, including three months' imprisonment.

Where do I find more information?

More information for businesses is available at www.health.tas.gov.au/coronavirus