

Australian Capital Territory

Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Travellers) Emergency Direction 2020

Notifiable Instrument NI2020–399

made under the

Public Health Act 1997, s 120 (Emergency actions and directions)

1. Name of instrument

This instrument is the *Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Travellers) Emergency Direction 2020*.

2. Commencement

This instrument commences at 12:01am on 8 July 2020.

3. Public Health Emergency Direction

I, Dr Kerryn Coleman, Chief Health Officer, consider it necessary or desirable to alleviate the emergency declared under the *Public Health (Emergency) Declaration 2020 (No 1)* [NI2020-153] (the **declared emergency**) on 16 March 2020, to give the directions as set out in the schedule.

4. Duration

This Direction is in force for the period ending on the day the declared emergency (as extended or further extended) ends, unless it is earlier revoked.

5. Revocation

This Direction revokes the *Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Hotspots) Emergency Direction (No 3)* [NI2020-393]

Dr Kerryn Coleman
Chief Health Officer

7 July 2020

Public Health Emergency Direction

Public Health Act 1997

*Made under the Public Health Act 1997,
section 120 (Emergency actions and directions)*

I, Dr Kerryn Coleman, Chief Health Officer, consider it necessary or desirable to alleviate the emergency declared under the *Public Health (Emergency) Declaration 2020 (No 1)* [NI2020-153] (the **declared emergency**) on 16 March 2020, to give the directions as set out below.

The purpose of this Direction is to limit the spread of coronavirus disease 2019 (**COVID-19**), caused by the novel coronavirus SARS-CoV-2.

PART 1 – TRAVEL FROM VICTORIA – AFFECTED PERSON

1. From 12:01am on 8 July 2020, an **affected person** must not enter the Australian Capital Territory unless the **affected person**:
 - a. enters the Australian Capital Territory for urgent medical, law enforcement or emergency purposes; or
 - b. transits through the Australian Capital Territory by road for business or freight purposes; or
 - c. arrives in the Canberra airport by air for the purpose of transiting to another destination, and does not leave the Canberra airport; or
 - d. has undergone an unbroken 14-day period of hotel quarantine following a flight that originated from overseas and has travelled directly to the Australian Capital Territory immediately upon completion of quarantine; or
 - e. has an exemption from this Direction.

PART 2 – QUARANTINE FOLLOWING TRAVEL FROM VICTORIA – RESIDENT OF AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

2. From 12:01am on 8 July 2020, a person who is ordinarily a resident of the Australian Capital Territory who arrives into the Australian Capital Territory after being in Victoria within the previous 14 days must:
 - a. notify ACT Health prior to their arrival in the Australian Capital Territory; and
 - b. travel immediately to **designated premises** to undertake a **period of quarantine**; and
 - c. not leave the **designated premises** other than in an emergency; and



- d. not permit any other person that does not reside at the **designated premises** to enter the premises, unless for medical, law enforcement or emergency purposes; and
- e. comply with any request by an **authorised person** to produce proof of identification.

PART 3 – SUPERVISED QUARANTINE OF UNACCOMPANIED CHILD

- 3. Prior to the arrival in the Australian Capital Territory of an **unaccompanied** child who is proposing to travel to the Australian Capital Territory, a parent, guardian, person with **parental responsibility** or **carer** of the child must notify ACT Health.
- 4. From the point at which a child who is ordinarily a resident of the Australian Capital Territory and who has travelled **unaccompanied** after being in Victoria within the previous 14 days arrives into the Australian Capital Territory, the child must:
 - a. travel immediately to **designated premises** to undertake quarantine for the **period of quarantine**; and
 - b. not leave the **designated premises**, other than in an emergency; and
 - c. comply with any request by an **authorised person** to produce proof of identification.
- 5. A parent, guardian, person with **parental responsibility** or **carer** of a child who has travelled **unaccompanied** must:
 - a. quarantine with the child at **designated premises** for the **period of quarantine**; and
 - b. not leave the **designated premises**, other than in an emergency; and
 - c. not permit any other person that does not reside at the **designated premises** to enter the premises, unless for medical, law enforcement or emergency purposes; and
 - d. comply with any request by an **authorised person** to produce proof of identification.
- 6. All members of the **household** of the **designated premises** must:
 - a. not leave the **designated premises** after the beginning of the **standard quarantine duration** other than in an emergency; and
 - b. comply with any request by an **authorised person** to produce proof of identification.

PART 4 — MATTERS RELEVANT TO THESE DIRECTIONS

7. For the purposes of Parts 2 and 3, the point at which a person who arrives into the Australian Capital Territory means:
 - a. for travel by air – from the Canberra airport;
 - b. for travel by bus – from the bus station or other place where the person disembarks;
 - c. for travel by train – from the train station where the person disembarks;
 - d. for travel by car – from the point at which the car crosses the border from New South Wales into the Australian Capital Territory; and
 - e. by any other means – from the point at which the person crosses the border from New South Wales into the Australian Capital Territory.
8. The Chief Health Officer may, in writing and subject to any conditions that the Chief Health Officer considers necessary, exempt a person from the directions in Parts 1, 2 or 3. Exemptions will be made in accordance with published guidance material endorsed by the Chief Health Officer.
9. An exemption under paragraph 8 must be requested and provided prior to the person's arrival in the Australian Capital Territory.
10. An **authorised person** may, in writing and subject to any conditions that the **authorised person** considers necessary, exempt a person from the full **period of quarantine**.

Transitional

11. The repealed law continues to apply to a person who:
 - a. was granted an exemption under the repealed law; or
 - b. started quarantine under the repealed law before the commencement of this Direction and was still in quarantine immediately before the commencement of this Direction.
12. Repealed law means *Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Hotspots) Emergency Direction 2020 [NI2020-387]*, *Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Hotspots) Emergency Direction 2020 (No 2) [NI2020-390]* and the *Public Health (COVID-19 Interstate Hotspots) Emergency Direction (No 3) [NI2020-393]*.

Enforcement

13. If a person fails to comply with this Direction, an **authorised person** may direct the person to do such things as are reasonably necessary to comply with this Direction including, upon request, to produce proof of identification to the **authorised person**.
14. If a person fails to comply with any direction given under paragraph 13, then the **authorised person** may take all reasonable steps to enforce compliance with the direction.



Guidance

15. If a person tests positive to COVID-19 during the **period of quarantine** they must comply with the *Public Health (Self-Isolation) Emergency Direction 2020* [NI2020-177].

Definitions

For the purposes of these directions:

16. **Affected person** means a person who has been in Victoria at any time in the previous 14 days excluding a person who is ordinarily a resident of the Australian Capital Territory.
17. **Authorised person** means an authorised person under section 121 of the *Public Health Act 1997*.
18. **Carer**, for the purposes of this Direction, includes an appropriate adult nominated by a person with **parental responsibility**.
19. Unless stated otherwise in writing by the Chief Health Officer, **designated premises** means:
- the person's usual place of residence or other premises that is suitable for the person to reside in for a **period of quarantine**; or
 - if the person is not normally a resident of the Australian Capital Territory, a hotel or other premises that has been approved in writing by the Chief Health Officer as suitable to reside in for a **period of quarantine**.
20. A **household** means people who ordinarily reside at the same residential premises.
21. **Parental responsibility** is as defined in section 15 of the *Children and Young People Act 2008*.
22. A **period of quarantine** means a period of 14 days, including any period of time that has already elapsed since the person was last in Victoria, prior to arrival in the Australian Capital Territory.
23. For a returned traveller who is a child, **unaccompanied** means without the presence of a person with **parental responsibility**.



PENALTIES

Section 120 (4) of the *Public Health Act 1997* provides:

A person must not, without reasonable excuse, fail to comply with a direction under this section.

Maximum Penalty:

In the case of a natural person, \$8,000 (50 penalty units).

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Dr Kerryn Coleman

Chief Health Officer

7 July 2020

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