



CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Stage 3 of easing restrictions for places of worship

Because Queensland has had such a positive health response to the gradual easing of COVID restrictions, we are able to kick-start our social recovery and ease those restrictions sooner than expected.

Stage 3 of the Roadmap to easing Queensland's restrictions started at midday today, meaning you can welcome more of your communities to worship onsite, face-to-face in your spiritual homes.

What it means for you:

1. Increased attendance

Under the [Industry COVID Safe Plan for Places of Worship in Queensland](#), in Stage 3:

Venues bigger than 200 square metres: one person per 4 square metres

Venues smaller than 200 square metres: one person per 2 square metres, up to a total of 50 people

People from the same household should be allowed to sit together and groups of households kept separate

2. Fewer restrictions for singing

Under Stage 3, singing is permitted during services, with the same distancing requirements listed above, based on your venue size.

3. Key public health rules to continue

- **Physical distancing** (to the extent possible)
- **Hand hygiene** (washing hands or using alcohol based sanitiser)
- **Respiratory hygiene** (coughing or sneezing into elbow)
- **Tracking, tracing, rapid response** (keeping contact details for 56 days for each service)
- **Frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection**

4. Pre- and post-service gatherings allowed

People may gather before or after a service, however the place of worship will need to ensure that the gatherings are guided by the Industry COVID Safe Plan and that public health controls are followed.

The service of food is guided by the [Retail Food Services Industry COVID Safe Plan](#) or, as applicable, the COVID Safe Checklist for seated dining and drinking in restaurants and cafes. There are very strict hygiene requirements that are attached to the service of food and no buffet or self-service of food is allowed.

5. Communion services

Consider modifying religious rites or rituals to avoid direct physical contact where practical. Where this is not practical, limit contact to hands. Ensure participants' hands are washed with hand sanitiser before and after each interaction.

6. Increased attendance at weddings and funerals

Wedding ceremonies and funerals can have a **maximum of 100 people depending on the size of the venue** – 1 person per 2 square metres, up to 50 people for venues or spaces of 200 square metres or less, and no more than 1 person per 4 square metres for venues or spaces of more than 200 square metres

More information

Visit covid19.qld.gov.au or email ma@dlgrma.qld.gov.au