

COVID-19 FAQs

Emergency Management (Cross Border Travel No 3) (COVID-19) Direction 2020

South Australia assesses the current situation against the recommendations of the Prime Minister. It has been determined by the State Coordinator Commissioner, Grant Stevens that South Australia is currently in a better situation than other states. He feels that the current restrictions are working well in flattening the curve. This situation is assessed on a day to day basis and decisions will be made on any further restrictions according to advice from SA Health.

View the list of who is deemed an Essential Traveller [here](#).

In South Australia:

If I travel into South Australia by car, do I have to self-quarantine?

Yes, all people entering South Australia are required to self-quarantine for 14 days unless they are an Essential Traveller.

Are the borders to South Australia closed for travel by car?

Our state borders are effectively closed but people entering South Australia by car will be stopped by SA Police and will be required to identify a suitable place to self-quarantine for 14 days. They will also be required to identify the most direct route to this location. This does not apply to those who are Essential Travellers.

Do I have to self-quarantine if I arrive on a flight?

Yes, all people entering South Australia are required to self-quarantine for 14 days unless they are an Essential Traveller.

How are the authorities going to know if I'm actually in self-quarantine or not?

SA Police are working with SA Health to monitor people who are known to be self-quarantining to make sure that people are compliant and also to monitor welfare.

I'm flying into South Australia because I've got a job as a fruit picker, do I have to self-quarantine?

Yes, all people entering South Australia are required to self-quarantine for 14 days unless they are an Essential Traveller.

Can I enter South Australia to visit a family member who is critically ill?

Yes. In this instance, you would be considered an Essential Traveller on compassionate grounds. If you travel to South Australia to visit a critically or terminally ill immediate family member, you must self-quarantine during any period during which you are not visiting your relative. Note: You may be required to provide evidence that they fall within the scope of this clause.



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Can I enter South Australia to attend the funeral of an immediate family member?

Yes. In this instance, you would be considered an Essential Traveller on compassionate grounds. If you travel to South Australia to attend the funeral of an immediate family member, you must self-quarantine during any period during which you are not attending the funeral. Note: you may be required to provide evidence that you are within the scope of this clause.

I'm a truck driver and I need to deliver medical equipment, livestock or other freight to South Australia. Do I have to self-quarantine for 14 days when I arrive?

Drivers of transport and freight services are considered Essential Travellers and are exempt from the 14 day self-quarantine rule. Passengers are not.

I'm a truck driver, can I bring a family member as a passenger with me in my truck and will they have to self-quarantine upon entry into South Australia?

If someone meets the Essential Traveller status they will be provided with an Essential Traveller form. Passengers (such as children, partner, friend or family member) are not deemed Essential Travellers and will be subject to 14 days self-quarantine at a nominated address in South Australia.

I am in the military, am I deemed an Essential Traveller and therefore don't have to self-quarantine for 14 days?

Active military and Defence Department personnel (including civilian staff and private contractors) and personnel required to support time-critical national security and defence activities, are deemed Essential Travellers and therefore exempt from the 14 day self-quarantine.

I have an urgent and essential medical appointment in Adelaide, do I have to self-quarantine for 14 days?

Provided you have evidence, if you are obtaining urgent and essential medical care, you are deemed an Essential Traveller and therefore exempt from the 14 day self-quarantine.

What happens if I arrive in South Australia from overseas?

You'll be required to fill out a form confirming you understand you have to complete the mandatory quarantine period of 14 days. You will be provided accommodation to undertake the quarantine period and transferred there directly. The accommodation will have all of the amenities and services you'll need during your stay. It will be safe and hygienic. Food, water and medical support will be provided. You will not incur costs as part of these quarantine arrangements.



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Should you have health needs, for example, prescriptions for regular medications, arrangements will be made to facilitate these requirements.

Can I travel to other towns in South Australia for a holiday?

There are no restrictions on travel within South Australia but it is strongly discouraged in an effort to limit the spread of COVID-19. Many holiday towns have requested that people do not visit their township at this time.

Can I visit an Aboriginal community?

Some Aboriginal communities across the state have opted to close access to their townships and lands to outside visitors, except for those providing essential services. This is consistent with a decision made by National Cabinet.

All non-essential visitors to these communities will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days prior to permission being granted to enter these communities.

I am a FIFO worker. Do I need to self-quarantine on returning to South Australia from my place of work?

No, as an essential traveller you are not required to self-quarantine provided your employer is applying risk mitigation strategies during periods of work. You may need to produce evidence, of the risk mitigation strategies in place, to authorities at the Airport. (i.e. a letter from your Employer)

I have been requested by the Chief Executive of the Department for Health and Wellbeing to assist in the provision of health services outside South Australia. When I return to South Australia, do I have to self-quarantine?

No, as you have been requested by the Chief Executive of the Department for Health and Wellbeing, you would be deemed an Essential Traveller, and therefore exempt from the 14 day self-quarantine on your return to South Australia.

Note: Other South Australian health care workers who wish to provide services in another State or jurisdiction will be required to undertake a 14-day quarantine period on their return to South Australia.

Are there exemptions for carers of mentally ill, disabled or aged people with dementia to enter South Australia?

Unless they are critically ill, no. You can enter South Australia to visit a family member who is critically ill and in this instance, you would be considered an Essential Traveller on compassionate grounds. If you travel to South Australia to visit a critically or terminally ill immediate family member, you must self-quarantine during any period during which you are not visiting your relative. You may be required to provide evidence that they fall within the scope of this clause.



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However, if you are the carer for a mentally ill, disabled or older person with dementia and they are not critically ill, then this will not fall under the Essential Traveller: compassionate grounds category.

You will still be able to enter South Australia and care for someone, but you will need to self-quarantine for a full 14 day period at a nominated South Australian address beforehand. Please note there are also various restrictions around visiting aged care facilities which may impact the ability to care for an older person with dementia.

Find out more on residential aged care facility restrictions [here](#).

Can parents who live in different States/Territories, continue their usual co-parenting arrangements of their child/children?

No, there are currently no exemptions for co-parenting arrangements.

You must be considered an Essential Traveller in order to enter South Australia without the need to self-quarantine for 14 days. Those who travel for co-parenting roles are not currently listed as Essential Travellers.

However, you will still be able to enter the state of South Australia but you will need to self-quarantine for a full 14 day period at a relevant South Australian address.

What do I do if the aged care provider of my parent/partner is saying I'm not allowed to visit, but the Residential Aged Care Direction stipulates care visits are allowed, and the Cross Border Travel Direction also allows Compassionate Grounds to visit? Who can I contact for help?

There is a current Direction in place which restricts entry into residential aged care facilities in South Australia. The Direction is enforceable by law and must be followed by all said facilities.

The Direction and associated frequently asked questions can be found here: www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/emergency-declarations/aged-care

If you believe a residential aged care facility is breaching the Direction, you can contact the police assistance line on 131 444. However, please note that some residential aged care facilities may also have their own self-enforced restrictions on top of the Direction restrictions to help stop the spread of COVID-19. A residential aged care facility cannot breach a Direction but they can introduce additional visitor restrictions if their patients are at risk.

What do I need to show South Australia Police at the border to validate my reason for travel & seek self-quarantine exemption?

Anyone who claims to be an Essential Traveller will be required to provide evidence that they fall within that specific category, otherwise you will be required to self-quarantine for 14 days upon entry into South Australia.



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Can South Australia implement an exemption process in advance of travelling to the border (as some of the other States/Territories are doing)?

No, border checks are conducted by South Australia Police at the border so you will need to have either your proof of Essential Traveller status pre-prepared and ready to show police OR your nominated South Australian address pre-arranged. If you are not an Essential Traveller then you will need to self-quarantine at a nominated South Australian address for a full 14 day period.

If a friend/family member from interstate is staying at my house, do I need to self-quarantine too?

Interstate travellers are required to self-quarantine when they come to South Australia. If they are staying with you, you are not required to self-quarantine, however it is highly recommended that you practice social distancing measures.

Are the South Australian borders closed?

Our state borders are effectively closed. People entering South Australia will be stopped by SA Police and will be required to identify a suitable place to self-quarantine for 14 days. They will also be required to identify the most direct route to this location. This does not apply to those who are Essential Travellers.

Are the South Australian borders open to everyone if they just complete the 14 day self-quarantine period?

The State Government took unprecedented action in response to the coronavirus pandemic requiring all people entering South Australia to self-quarantine for 14-days from their arrival, unless they are an Essential Traveller.

Can I travel through from one state to my home state via South Australia?

Yes, as an Essential Traveller you can travel through South Australia on your way to your home state. You must however take the most direct and practical route.

Does the Cross Border Travel Direction include exemptions for parents-to-be travelling to South Australia for the birth of their child via surrogacy?

No. You are not deemed to be an Essential Traveller therefore you must self-quarantine for 14 days upon entry into South Australia.

Can I attend a birth if I am in my 14 day self-quarantine period having come from interstate?

No. Because you are not deemed an Essential Traveller you must remain in the place nominated and not leave the location for the 14 day self-quarantine.



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Can I spend a night in South Australia if I'm travelling through between states and keep going?

If you are travelling between states you may stay overnight in South Australia as long as you are travelling the most direct and practical route, as you are deemed an Essential Traveller.

I have recently moved interstate, but need to attend my residence in South Australia (or interstate) to collect/move belongings, am I considered an Essential Traveller or am I required to stay in South Australia and self-quarantine for 14 days upon crossing into South Australia before I can return interstate?

You are not considered an Essential Traveller. Crossing the South Australian border means you will have to self-quarantine for 14 days before returning interstate.

Can I go to interstate to get a puppy/car/caravan and return to South Australia on the same day, or next day without going into quarantine when I come back?

No, all non-Essential Travellers are required to self-quarantine for 14 days when travelling back into South Australia. Upon your return, you are required to self-quarantine for 14 days.

Are boarding school or interstate/international students considered Essential Travellers? (especially year 12's and Graduating University students)

No, you are not considered an Essential Traveller. All students returning from interstate are required to adhere to the 14 day self-quarantine rule when entering South Australia.

Can my family come and pick me up from the airport and drive me to their home in a regional area for me to quarantine there?

If you have travelled from interstate yes, a family member can transport you via the most direct route to your accommodation/home to quarantine. If you have travelled from overseas you will be provided accommodation to undertake the quarantine period and transferred there directly.

Can I self-quarantine in my holiday home in a regional area?

Yes you can, but advice is to consider if your need to travel to regional areas is essential because we are trying to slow the spread of COVID-19 particularly in our regional areas within South Australia.

What happens if I go to interstate to visit my partner, do I have to stay there and quarantine and then quarantine again on my return?

Yes, all people entering South Australia are required to self-quarantine for 14 days unless they are an Essential Traveller. For when you go interstate, you have to understand the directions of that state.



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Does everyone coming in to the State have to self-quarantine in a hotel or can I go home?

If you are entering South Australia from interstate you can self-quarantine for 14 days at your home. However, if you are entering South Australia from overseas you will be provided accommodation to undertake the quarantine period and transferred there directly.



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