



Stage 4 of easing restrictions for places of worship fact sheet Effective 16 October 2020*

This fact sheet provides a summary of the key principles in the Industry COVID Safe Plan for Places of Worship in Queensland, which applies to all places of worship, including home worship services[€]

Stage 4 of the Roadmap to easing Queensland's restrictions started on 1 October 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 for outdoor events

Under the [Industry COVID Safe Plan for Places of Worship in Queensland](#), in Stage 4:

Outdoor worship events: one person per 2 square metres

Indoor venues bigger than 200 square metres: one person per 4 square metres

Indoor 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

For indoor worship services that are larger than 500 people or outdoor worship services that are larger than 1,000 people, you must notify Public Health Units of the event a minimum of 10 days prior via email at COVID-19.Industryplans@health.qld.gov.au

2. Fewer restrictions for singing

Under Stage 4, 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 of 1.5 metres

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 and ensuring it is readily available if requested)

Frequent environmental cleaning and disinfection

4. Pre- and post-service gatherings allowed

People must be appropriately physically distanced while eating or drinking. 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, self-service, open displays of food or food on display meant for consumption 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.

Dancing allowed at weddings

Up to 40 people can dance at any one time at a wedding with a COVID Safe Plan.

6. Home worship

If you are using your home for worship activities for people other than members of your household, the most up to date [Movement and Gathering Direction](#) applies. Note that this number may change as circumstances change and may be selectively/locally decreased in the case of an outbreak of COVID-19.

If you wish to exceed the maximum attendance requirements outlined in the Movement and Gathering Direction, then **ALL** requirements outlined in the COVID Safe Industry Plan for Places of Worship apply and are the responsibility of the person hosting the worship service in their home.

More Information

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

For worship services with more than 500 people please visit the [Industry Framework for COVID Safe Events in Queensland](#)

* Where there is an inconsistency between the Restrictions on Businesses, Activities and Undertakings Direction (the Direction) and this fact sheet, the Direction will take precedence over the fact sheet for the extent of the inconsistency.[€] Industry Plan only applies to Home Worship activities where people wish to exceed the attendance requirements outlined in the most up to date Movement and Gathering Direction.