

# COVID-19 Fact Sheet

## Retirement village operators

Updated 29 July 2020

# COVID-19 advice for retirement village operators

This factsheet provides information and advice to operators of retirement villages in South Australia. It outlines the measures that operators should take to reduce the risk of COVID-19 to retirement village residents and others.

The [Direction](#) under the *Emergency Management Act 2004* to limit entry into residential aged care facilities **does not apply to retirement villages**.

However, retirement villages and residents must comply with the restrictions set out under the [Emergency Management \(Public Activities\) \(COVID-19\) Direction 2020](#).

More information on current restrictions are available on the SA Government [COVID-19 website](#).

It is important that operators of retirement villages stay informed as directions and guidelines change due to the evolving status of COVID-19.

For information about residential aged care facilities co-located with other facilities, including retirement villages, visit the [SA Health website](#).

### Key principles

- > **Density requirements:** There is no limit on the total number of people at a venue, however, there must be a maximum of 1 person per 2 square metres.
- > **Physical distancing:** People should practise physical distancing (keeping 1.5 metres distance from others) wherever and whenever possible.

### New restrictions

#### Victorian travellers

Only essential travellers are able to enter SA from Victoria. South Australians are no longer able to return to SA from Victoria.

#### Public activity

##### Maximum capacity requirements

- > Gatherings of more than 50 people at a residential premises are now defined as a prohibited gathering.
- > A person must not allow, organise a prohibited gathering at a residential premises.

##### Weddings including ceremonies and receptions

- > This is only permitted where the number of people attending do not exceed 100 and contact tracing is conducted, regardless of the venue.
- > If at a residential premises it is a maximum of 50 people.

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Funerals including a wake

- > This is only permitted where the number of people attending do not exceed 100 and contact tracing is conducted, regardless of the venue.
- > If at a residential premises it is a maximum of 50 people.

### Travel restrictions

Travel restrictions are changing frequently, please check [www.sa.gov.au](http://www.sa.gov.au) for the latest updates.

### Activities

The following activities are allowed to take place in on-site established areas, provided that the limit of 1 person per 2 square metres is adhered to and there is a COVID Management Plan or COVID Safe Plan in place:

- > Retail, shopping and food courts
- > Restaurants, cafes, pubs, breweries, wineries and hospitality (food and alcohol)
- > Casino, gaming rooms and facilities in pubs and clubs
- > Cinemas, theatres, galleries and museums
- > Nightclubs and music festivals
- > Libraries, community centres and RSL halls
- > Indoor play centres, amusement arcades and amusement parks
- > Beauty salons, nail salons, tattoos, massage (non-therapeutic)
- > Regional travel, campgrounds, caravan parks and pools
- > Worship
- > Funerals and weddings (maximum of 100 people)
- > Private gatherings at home (maximum of 50 people)
- > Gyms, indoor fitness and dance classes
- > Non-contact and contact outdoors and indoor sports and training, and indoor recreation activities (training and competition)
- > Face-to-face social support groups under the Commonwealth Community Home Support Program, provided that the organisation has a COVID-Safe Plan

### Retirement village residents should be advised to:

- > Stay at home and contact their GP for advice about getting tested if they are unwell, even with mild symptoms of cold or flu
- > Continue to stay connected to their doctor about existing health concerns
- > Wash their hands regularly, practise good cough/sneeze etiquette and wipe down frequently touched surfaces
- > Get their annual flu vaccination – free for people over the aged of 65
- > Practice physical distancing wherever possible
- > Minimise the use of shared equipment

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- > Vulnerable people, such as older people and people with chronic health conditions, should talk to their doctor about what is appropriate for them.

### Additional resources for retirement village operators and residents

Please call the below numbers or visit the websites or contact for more information.

- > **SA COVID-19 Information Line** 1800 253 787
- > **SA COVID-19 Mental Health Support Line** (8am-8pm, 7 days) 1800 632 753  
[SACOVIDMentalHealth.org.au](http://SACOVIDMentalHealth.org.au)
- > **Older Person's COVID-19 Support Line** 1800 171 866  
(advice, support, referrals and connection for Older Australians)
- > **Aged Rights Advocacy Service** 1800 700 600  
(free, confidential service to older people, or their representatives, living in a retirement village)  
[sa.agedrights.asn.au](http://sa.agedrights.asn.au)
- > **COTA SA**  
[cota.org.au/information/covid19](http://cota.org.au/information/covid19)

If the resident is deaf, hard of hearing, or has a speech or communication impairment, contact **National Relay Service** on 1800 555 677 and ask them to call the COVID-19 infection hotline.

For **Translating or interpreting services**, call 131 450

The **Australian Department of Health** has released COVID-19 factsheets for:

- > [Older Australians](#)
- > [Retirement villages](#)

Anyone experiencing potentially life threatening symptoms should call **Triple Zero (000)**.

If you know of someone who is breaching the quarantine or isolation directions put in place, please call **Crime Stoppers** on 1800 333 000.

### Training for operators and staff

A [new online training module](#) providing information on COVID-19 infection control has been released by the Australian Government. This includes signs and symptoms of the virus, how to keep safe and myth busting. The training offers practical information on how to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and measures to take when visitors attend, which may be of relevance in the retirement village setting.

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## For more information

**Office for Ageing Well**  
**Department for Health and Wellbeing**  
**SA Health, Government of South Australia**  
[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVID2019](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/COVID2019)

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