



How the “four square metre rule” works

Queensland  Council of Unions

COVID-19
FACT SHEET

Social
Distancing
Rules

1 June 2020

Social Distancing will help prevent second wave

We've all played our part in helping reduce the risk of COVID-19 and now Queensland restrictions are easing. But it's important that we continue to practice social distancing in public places to help minimise the risk of a second wave.

There are important rules that remain in place under both Public Health Directives and the Work Health and Safety Act, as part of public and work health and safety requirements to help prevent and minimise the risk of COVID-19.

The “four square metre rule” is one of the requirements of how we practice social distancing. It applies to indoor areas in restricted workplaces such as pubs, cafes and restaurants.

The rule is simple. There should be a maximum of one person for every four square metres in an indoor or outdoor area. This could be a restaurant or a bar. Each area must apply the four square metre rule. So, if a restaurant or café eating area is 20 square metres (5 metres x 4 metres), there can only be a maximum of five people and they must apply social distancing. If a bar area is 12 square metres (3 metres x 4 metres), then there should only be three people in the area.

It's also important that people remain at least 1.5 metres apart from each other and that the business applies COVID Safe cleaning and hygiene practices.

The four square metre rule helps us to practice social distancing and to minimise the risk of COVID-19 in restricted workplaces.

Go to <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/system-governance/legislation/cho-public-health-directions-under-expanded-public-health-act-powers> for the latest public health directives.

Contact Queensland Unions on 07 3010 2555 for further information.



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