



FIELD PROCEDURES FOR CORONAVIRUS- V10

Following approaches by FPA Australia, the NSW Minister for Health and Medical Research, the Hon. Brad Hazzard MP, approved the continuation of fire protection work in residential buildings during the lockdown.

In an [amendment](#) to his Public Health Order, the Minister included 'fire protection and safety' as a reason for people to visit places of residence in Greater Sydney.

This means that routine service work can be carried out in all buildings.

For the rule in context, the relevant subclause of the updated [Public Health \(COVID-19 Temporary Movement and Gathering Restrictions\) Order 2021](#) is 22A (4B)(b)(ii). This rule is now in force.

The amendment follows on from the Government's move to include 'fire protection and safety' as [authorised work](#) for practitioners living in the Canterbury-Bankstown, Fairfield, and Liverpool local government areas, allowing them to leave the region for work purposes.

Update 28/07/2021: *Extension of the lockdown to 28th August 2021 has also included 3 additional LGA's Parramatta, Georges River, & Campbelltown.*

Fire Protection staff are authorised workers in those additional LGAS. Authorised workers must be tested every 72 hours per the Public Health Order.

In light of 2020 Fire staff living in the 8 LGA's and contractual requirements for jails, all staff attending sites are required to be tested every Monday, Wednesday & Friday with immediate effect.

Here's a list of testing locations:

<https://www.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/health-and-wellbeing/clinics>

General Hygiene:

- Have hand sanitiser, mask(s) and disposable gloves available on your person at all times on site.
- *Must wear a mask at ALL times on-site except when in vehicle on-own, inside vehicles if travelling with others + use hand sanitiser between unit inspections and between sites.*
- Must practice social distancing of 1.5 metres at all times.
- *Must minimise through scheduling, the cross-over between staff.*
- Shaking hands and unnecessary in-person contact be avoided.
- All possible meetings moved to virtual.
- Stay up to date with: <https://www.health.gov.au/news/health-alerts/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-health-alert>
- Also read NSW-specific additional restrictions: <https://www.nsw.gov.au/media-releases/new-covid-19-restrictions-for-greater-sydney-23-june-2021>
- If you have been in contact with anyone who has been in contact with someone exposed to COVID-19, you must inform your manager immediately and self-isolate until instructed otherwise.
- *You must complete the 2020 Fire Protection compulsory COVID Survey weekly – outlining your health & locations.*
- *You must be tested for COVID every **Monday, Wednesday & Friday**. Note: According to NSW Govt. Advice, if you are tested as an essential worker with no symptoms, you do not need to self-isolate while waiting for results.*
- When you have a COVID test, the results must be sent to covidtest@2020fire.com.au upon receipt for recording.
- No entry to 2020 Fire's upstairs office permitted.
- Scan in & out of all sites with a QR code- including residential common areas if a QR code exists.

For Unit Access:

- *A face mask must be worn at all times on sites.*
- *Ask the following questions before entering every unit:*
 - 1. Do you have COVID symptoms, direct contacts or concerns?*
 - 2. Would you mind wearing a mask while I access your unit?*
- *If occupant looks sick or answers yes to question 1, do not enter or touch anything – report it as “no access- occupant unwell”.*
- *Practice social distancing from unit occupants – irrespective of whether they wear a mask. **Note:** Occupants wearing a mask is not enforceable. It is a precautionary request to limit potential transmission paths. Do not make it an argument.*

Sources:

- NSW Govt.: *"Dr Chant clarified that the new testing requirements for essential workers from Greater Sydney working in regional areas and those from the Fairfield area moving elsewhere in the city was "surveillance testing" – workers without symptoms do not need to isolate while awaiting the result of their tests."*
- *Fire Protection is an Essential Service:*
<http://www.fpaa.com.au/news/news/2020/06/fire-protection-work-is-an-essential-service.aspx>

Companywide:

- Weekly Staff COVID hotspots survey
- We are a COVID Safe business
- We have a COVID Safe Plan
- Online system for annual test unit bookings

