



TASMANIA  
PREMIER OF TASMANIA

Alisha Bull  
Deputy Secretary Tasmania  
Maritime Union of Australia – Tasmanian Branch  
Email: [alisha.bull@mua.org.au](mailto:alisha.bull@mua.org.au)

Dear Alisha,

Thank you for your email of 22 April 2020 to my offices, regarding the National Cabinet decision to provide exemptions to relevant maritime workers from being required to quarantine at a government facility upon their return to Tasmania.

I confirm that Tasmania supports this National Cabinet decision, to enable the efficient transfer of non-freight maritime workers into Tasmania to join vessels or to return home, or those signing off vessels in Tasmania.

I am advised that the State Controller has signed a Direction to implement the maritime exemptions process from midnight, tonight – Tuesday, 5 May 2020. Eligible maritime vessels or companies will be able to apply for an exemption as a class of persons from tomorrow.

I attach for your reference a factsheet explaining the exemption process, and how it has been adopted in Tasmania. To implement this policy in Tasmania, I have sought public health advice on how to both meet the intention of the National Cabinet decision whilst also upholding our current border measures that are in place during the COVID-19 response. I believe that our response achieves both.

This factsheet will be uploaded to the Tasmanian Government's coronavirus webpage this afternoon, ahead of it going live tonight. I understand the Department of State Growth will also be contacting the national maritime and other industry representative groups directly with this information shortly.

I note that crew, vessels or companies involved in the "transport, freight and logistics" industry are currently exempt from the quarantine requirements under Category 3 definition of a [Specified Person](#) – "Transport, Freight and Logistics". This industry will not be impacted by the introduction of this new exemption process.

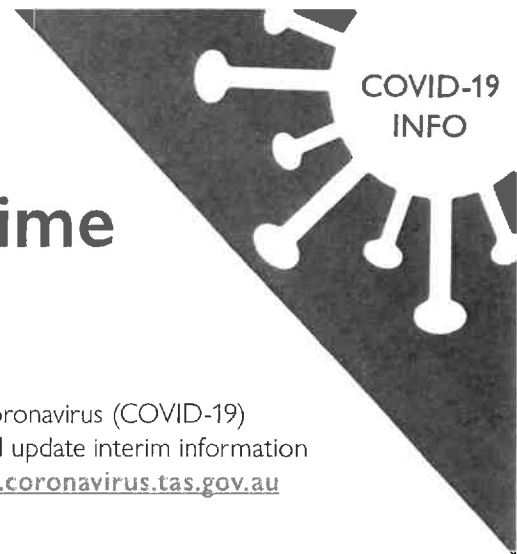
Again, I thank you for writing to myself and the State Controller about these matters. Both the State Controller and I acknowledge the time taken to ensure the best approach is implemented in Tasmania, and trust this information is of assistance.

Yours sincerely



Peter Gutwein MP  
**Premier**

Attachments: Fact Sheet – Class exemptions for maritime workers (non-freight)  
Tasmanian arrivals form



Protecting yourself and others from coronavirus

# Class exemptions for maritime workers (non-freight)



This interim information is based on what is currently known about coronavirus (COVID-19) and the current situation in Tasmania. The Tasmanian Government will update interim information as needed and as additional information becomes available. Visit [www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.tas.gov.au) for the latest information.

**The State Controller offers the following class exemptions to eligible maritime crew from being required to quarantine in a government facility for a period of 14 days:**

**Class I:** Maritime crew 'signing-off' a commercial or government vessel in Tasmania.

**Class II:** Maritime crew arriving in Tasmania to join a commercial or government vessel.

**Class III:** Maritime crew who are Tasmanian residents returning after disembarking at an interstate port.

**These class exemptions are available to maritime crew of commercial and government vessels who are not eligible for the Category 3 exemption of the [Schedule of Specified Persons](#). These exemptions do not apply to crew of cruise ships.**

## All Classes

### Whilst in Tasmania

Whilst in Tasmania, all exempted crew members must:

- monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 (e.g. fever, coughing, sore throat, muscular pains, shortness of breath or unexpected tiredness); and
- practice good personal hygiene, including covering coughs or sneezes, using tissues (disposed after use), and frequently washing hands including before and after eating.

If the crew member believes that they are displaying a symptom of COVID-19, they must:

- not attend work (if applicable);
- remain in their primary residence (or similar), unless to seek medical care; and
- contact the Public Health Hotline or medical practitioner, to determine if testing is required.

### Applying for a class exemption

A maritime vessel, company or agent must apply for a class exemption by writing to the State Controller, with evidence as outlined on the following pages.

This application can be sent to [essentialtraveller@dpipwe.tas.gov.au](mailto:essentialtraveller@dpipwe.tas.gov.au). Applications will take a minimum of three days to process.

## Penalties

It is an offence to knowingly provide false or misleading information to an emergency management worker. To do so may incur a fine of up to \$16,800.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both.

## What class am I?

On the following pages the definition, conditions and required evidence are outlined for each of the three classes.

## For crew of freight vessels

The following categories are considered **Specified Persons**, and are exempt from being required to quarantine in a government facility upon arrival in Tasmania (read more [here](#)):

- any person who, in the carriage of his or her duties, is responsible for the provision of transport or freight and logistics into, within, and out of Tasmania; and
- ship crew for the purpose of delivery of persons, freight and logistics into, within, and out of Tasmania, and are considered Specified Persons.

## Need help or more information?

- Tasmanian Public Health Hotline **1800 671 738**
- National Coronavirus Helpline **1800 020 080**

## Class I: Maritime crew 'signing-off' in Tasmania

### Definition

Maritime crew signing off from commercial or government vessels (apart from cruise ships) in Tasmania in order to:

- depart Australia;
- join another vessel in Australia; or
- for Australian residents, to return to their normal place of residence in Australia;
- provided that:
  - » the crew have completed 14 days at sea, subsequent to the last crew member joining the vessel or last international port of call (whichever is the later); and
  - » that no crew are unwell during this period.

### Description

This class exemption recognises the time spent at sea as the 14 day quarantine period, starting from the last point at which a new crew member joined the vessel, or the vessel's last international port of call, whichever is later.

### Eligibility conditions

- The vessel must certify that no crew have reported being unwell during this period.
- All crew members must have completed the 14-days onboard the ship, as set out above.
- If a crew member disembarks a vessel that has not completed the required 14 days, they will be required to complete the balance of time remaining at a government accommodation facility.

### Evidence must include:

- how the eligibility conditions will be complied with, for example:
  - » certifying that no crew have reported being unwell during the 14-day period; and
  - » certifying that the '14-days at sea' period has been complied with.
- evidence of the company's or vessel's COVID-19 management plan or crew procedure.

A strong application may also identify the names and positions of eligible crew members.

More information on how to apply for a class exemption is available at: <https://dpiw.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/biosecurity/biosecurity-forms/covid-19-important-information-for-travellers>.

### Evidence required by crew members when disembarking

On arrival to Tasmania, crew members will be required to:

- Complete a Tasmanian Arrivals Card.
- Present to an authorised officer a copy of the Class Exemption letter signed by the State Controller addressed to their employer.

### Leaving the port

Tasmanian residents may proceed to their normal residence. While in Tasmania, they must comply with existing Tasmanian COVID-19 public policies, including the "stay at home" and gatherings directions.

They must also monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 and practice good hand hygiene.

Crew leaving Tasmania (to return home interstate or join another vessel) must do so promptly, and take the first available flight (or ship) out of the state.

## Class II: Maritime crew arriving in Tasmania to join a vessel.

### Definition

Maritime crew arriving in Tasmania from interstate (i.e. have not been overseas in the last 14 days) to join a commercial or government vessel (apart from cruise ships), provided that they transit directly from their port of arrival to the vessel and undertake necessary precautions during the period of transit.

### Eligibility conditions

To be eligible for this exemption, crew must:

- transit promptly from their port of arrival (e.g. airport) to the commercial vessel. During transit, they must undertake all hygiene and social distancing precautions.

Once they are on the vessel, crew members should:

- use appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) when interacting with others (port workers and other crew members who will be leaving the vessel for shore leave or sign-off);
- practice good personal hygiene and cleaning/sanitising surfaces and common areas;
- use separate facilities to other crew members (where possible); and
- maintain appropriate social distancing.

Crew must stay on the vessel other than to complete necessary vessel maintenance tasks.

This class exemption only applies to those transiting from interstate. Anyone who has arrived to Australia within the 14 days prior to travelling to Tasmania must seek an individual exemption from the State Controller.

### Evidence must include:

- how the eligibility conditions will be complied with, including
  - » proof of transport to be used by crew between port of arrival and the relevant vessel (eg. booking receipts);
  - » how the crew member will be supported to comply with the social distancing requirements on the ship (e.g. separate facilities, access to PPE equipment).
- evidence that the vessel that the work relates to is expected to be in that port at the specified time and that the crew member will be able to transit promptly to the ship; and
- evidence of the company's COVID-19 management plan or crew procedure.

A strong application may also identify the names and positions of eligible crew members.

More information on how to apply for a class exemption is available at <https://dpiwve.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/biosecurity/biosecurity-forms/covid-19-important-information-for-travellers>

### Evidence required by crew members on arrival to Tasmania

On arrival to Tasmania, crew members will be required to:

- Complete a Tasmanian Arrivals Card; and
- Present to an authorised officer a copy of the Class Exemption letter signed by the State Controller addressed to their employer.



## **Class III:** Maritime crew who are Tasmanian residents returning after disembarking at an interstate port.

### **Definition**

Maritime crew members who:

- are normally resident in Tasmania;
- have disembarked from commercial or government vessels (apart from cruise ships) at an interstate port;
- and provided that:
  - » they have transited promptly from port of arrival to port of departure without delay;
  - » the vessel they were on completed 14 days at sea, subsequent to the last crew member joining the vessel or last international port of call (whichever is later); and
  - » no crew are unwell during this period.

### **Eligibility conditions**

To be eligible for this condition, companies or vessels must demonstrate that:

- the vessel spent at least 14 days at sea, subsequent to the last crew member joining or last international port of call (whichever is later);
- no crew reported being unwell during this period; and
- crew members transit promptly (as reasonably able) from their interstate port of arrival to the airport in order to travel to Tasmania.

If the company or vessel is unable to demonstrate or guarantee the prompt transit requirement to the satisfaction of the State Controller, crew members will be subject to normal quarantine requirements.

### **Evidence must include:**

- how the eligibility conditions will be complied with, for example:
  - » proof of compliance with the '14-days at sea' condition;
  - » proof of crew members intended prompt transit (e.g. flight bookings).
- evidence of the company or vessel's COVID-19 management plan or crew procedure.

A strong application may also identify the names and positions of eligible crew members.

More information on how to apply for a class exemption is available at: <https://dppwe.tas.gov.au/biosecurity-tasmania/biosecurity/biosecurity-forms/covid-19-important-information-for-travellers>

### **Evidence required by crew members on arrival to Tasmania**

On arrival to Tasmania, crew members will be required to:

- Complete a Tasmanian Arrivals Card.
- Present to an authorised officer a copy of the Class Exemption letter signed by the State Controller addressed to their employer.

### **On leaving the port of arrival**

Maritime crew members eligible for this exemption may proceed to their normal residence upon arrival in Tasmania.

They must comply with existing Tasmanian COVID-19 public policies, including the "stay at home" and gatherings directions.

They must also monitor themselves for symptoms of COVID-19 and practice good hand hygiene.



Protecting yourself and others from coronavirus

# Tasmanian Arrivals Form

Help us stop the spread of COVID-19 (novel coronavirus)

The State Controller requires you to complete this form to provide information and the details of your travel, and for everyone travelling in your party.

If you are not an Essential Traveller (see page 4) you are **required to enter quarantine for 14 days in a government provided accommodation immediately.**

The information below will be used to check on your health and compliance over the next 14 days.

## Details of travel

If you have travelled with others as a family, *please complete additional fields on Page 3*

▶ Country(ies), States and Territories visited in the past 30 days

▶ Entry point into Tasmania (city)

▶ Date of arrival  
in Tasmania

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

## If by plane

▶ Flight number

▶ Seat number

## If by boat/ship

▶ Name of vessel

## Contact details

▶ Name

▶ Nationality as shown on passport

▶ Date of birth

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

▶ Email

▶ Mobile number

▶ Accommodation address for the next 14 days

▶ Signature

Day	Month	Year
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

This section of the form is only required to be completed by those people who **have Essential Traveller status**

### Essential Traveller status

Please tick a box if you meet the criteria of 'Essential Traveller'. See end of document for full definitions.

- ▶  National and State Security and Governance    ▶  Health services    ▶  Transport, freight and logistics
- ▶  Specialist skills    ▶  Paramedics, ambulance officers and police officers    ▶  I have an exemption from the State Controller (you will need to attach or present a copy of this exemption, and if necessary complete additional fields below)

Please provide a short justification for why you meet the above criteria:

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If you do not meet the criteria for an Essential Traveller, **you must go into quarantine for 14 days in a government provided accommodation immediately**. You can apply for an individual assessment for Essential Traveller status. Application Forms are available on the [DPIPWE website](#) and from Biosecurity Tasmania staff.

This section of the form is only required to be completed by Tasmanian residents who **have completed 14 days quarantine in an interstate facility**

### Tasmanian residents who have completed 14-days quarantine in an interstate facility

Returning Tasmanian residents who believe an additional 14 days in quarantine in government provided accommodation will cause undue hardship can apply for an exemption based on compassionate or medical grounds. Applications for exemption will be considered on individual merit by the State Controller.

If granted exemption under compassionate or medical grounds, you will be required to quarantine at your primary residence in Tasmania for the 14 day period.

- ▶  I declare that:

I have received exemption from mandatory quarantine in a Tasmanian provided accommodation by the State Controller thereby qualifying me for an exemption from mandatory quarantine in a Tasmanian provided accommodation.

I understand that I must quarantine at my primary residence for a period of 14 days from all other persons other than those who I live with.

I will seek medical advice if I develop COVID-19 symptoms.

I must monitor my own health.

OR

- ▶  I wish to apply for an exemption to undertake the 14 days quarantine requirement in government provided accommodation. I understand that if my application for exemption is approved, I will still be required to quarantine at my primary residence in Tasmania for the 14 day period.

I understand I must begin the 14 days of quarantine in a government provided accommodation while my application for exemption is processed.

To apply you must fill out the Application Form – Compassionate or Medical Grounds at [www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/coronavirus](http://www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au/coronavirus)

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

- Copy of approval of exemption letter from the State Controller provided

If you arrive in Tasmania without an exemption, you will be required to quarantine in government provided accommodation until such time that you are advised that an exemption has been granted.



This section of the form is only required to be completed by **eligible maritime crew**

Note - persons who are eligible under Category 3 of the Essential Traveller categories (see page 5) are not required to complete this section or have an exemption from the State Controller.

### Eligible maritime crew (non-freight)

You must make sure you have the relevant evidence to qualify for this exemption.

I am a member of this class of maritime crew (select one only):

- ▶  I Maritime crew disembarking in Tasmania from a commercial or government vessel (apart from cruise ships) which:
- has completed 14-days at sea, prior to the last crew member joining the vessel or docking at an international port, and
  - no crew were unwell during this period

OR

- ▶  II Maritime crew arriving in Tasmania to join a commercial or government vessel (apart from cruise ships), provided that they:
- transit promptly from their port of arrival to the vessel, and
  - undertake necessary precautions during the period of transit;

OR

- ▶  III Maritime crew members from commercial or government vessels who:
- are normally resident in Tasmania,
  - have disembarked at an interstate port, provided they have booked the first available return flight to Tasmania,
  - have observed a period of self-isolation whilst awaiting transit, and
  - the vessel I was on completed at least 14 days at sea, prior to the last crew member joining or docking at an international port; and
  - no crew reported being unwell during this period.

As evidence, I have:

- ▶  A copy of the class exemption signed by the State Controller to my employer.

▶ Company or vessel that received the class exemption

▶ Date signed   Day   Month     Year

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Copy of the approved class exemption letter from the State Controller provided

### Certifications

For all classes:

- ▶  I have not knowingly been in contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19
- ▶  I am not currently displaying any respiratory symptoms

For all class II only:

- ▶  I understand that I must travel directly to the vessel I will be working on and maintain appropriate social distancing during this transit period.

# Additional information if travelling as a family

If you are travelling as a family please provide the names and contact details of each additional family member below:

## Family member details 1

▶ Name	<input type="text"/>	▶ If by plane, seat number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Date of birth	Day Month Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	▶ Mobile number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Email (Separate contact details not required if traveller is under 18 and travelling with an adult)	<input type="text"/>		

## Family member details 2

▶ Name	<input type="text"/>	▶ If by plane, seat number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Date of birth	Day Month Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	▶ Mobile number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Email (Separate contact details not required if traveller is under 18 and travelling with an adult)	<input type="text"/>		

## Family member details 3

▶ Name	<input type="text"/>	▶ If by plane, seat number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Date of birth	Day Month Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	▶ Mobile number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Email (Separate contact details not required if traveller is under 18 and travelling with an adult)	<input type="text"/>		

## Family member details 4

▶ Name	<input type="text"/>	▶ If by plane, seat number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Date of birth	Day Month Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	▶ Mobile number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Email (Separate contact details not required if traveller is under 18 and travelling with an adult)	<input type="text"/>		

## Family member details 5

▶ Name	<input type="text"/>	▶ If by plane, seat number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Date of birth	Day Month Year <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/> <input type="text"/>	▶ Mobile number	<input type="text"/>
▶ Email (Separate contact details not required if traveller is under 18 and travelling with an adult)	<input type="text"/>		

This information is required under the *Emergency Management Act 2006* from all people who have arrived in Tasmania after Friday 20 March 2020 by the State Controller. Failure to provide this information is an offence against the Act and may incur a fine of up to \$16,800.00 or imprisonment for a term not exceeding six months, or both.

Any person that fails to comply with a requirement to quarantine or quarantine is committing an offence.

This information is collected and will be used subject to the *Personal Information Protection Act 2004 (Tas)*, for the purposes of assisting the State Controller to exercise powers and perform functions to prevent or control the spread of a notifiable disease under the *Public Health Act 1997 (Tas)*, namely the novel coronavirus COVID-19.

# Essential Traveller categories Full definitions list

## 1. National and State Security and Governance

- a. Any person who, in the carriage of his or her duties, is responsible for the safety of the Nation or Tasmania against threats such as terrorism, war, or espionage or acts of foreign interference and is required to be present in Tasmania for such purposes, and any persons assisting such persons; and
- b. Active Military personnel required to be on duty in Tasmania while in Tasmania; and
- c. A member of the Commonwealth Parliament who is ordinarily resident in Tasmania.

## 2. Health Services

- a. A clinician in relation to health who is ordinarily resident in Tasmania and who is requested by the Secretary of the Department of Health, or his or her delegate, to return to Tasmania to present for duty in Tasmania; and
- b. A clinician in relation to health who is requested by the Secretary of the Department of Health, or his or her delegate, to present for duty in Tasmania to perform, during the period in which the person will be present in Tasmania, duties unable to be appropriately performed by a person ordinarily resident in Tasmania.

## 3. Transport, freight and logistics

- a. Any person who, in the carriage of his or her duties, is responsible for the provision of transport or freight and logistics into, within, and out of Tasmania; and
- b. Flight crew and ship crew – for the purpose of delivery of persons, freight or logistics into, within and out of Tasmania.

## 4. Specialist skills critical to maintaining key industries or businesses

- a. Any specialists required for industry or business continuity and maintenance of competitive operations where the appropriate skills are not available in Tasmania, where the service is time-critical and where the provision of the service requires that the person be physically present in Tasmania; and
- b. Any person who, in the carriage of his or her duties, is responsible, while in Tasmania, for critical maintenance or repair of infrastructure critical to Tasmania.

## 5. Paramedics and ambulance officers

- a. A paramedic, or an officer of Ambulance Tasmania, each within the meaning of the *Ambulance Service Act 1982*, who is returning to Tasmania as soon as practicable after providing medical transport to a patient or who is returning to Tasmania while providing medical transport to a person; and
- b. A paramedic, or an officer of Ambulance Tasmania, each within the meaning of the *Ambulance Service Act 1982*, who is ordinarily resident in Tasmania and who is requested by the Commissioner of Ambulance Services, or his or her delegate, to return to Tasmania to present for duty in Tasmania.

## 6. Police officers

- a. Members of the Tasmania Police Service; and
- b. Members of the Australia Federal Police or a police force or police service of another State or a Territory of the Commonwealth travelling to Tasmania in the course of their duties.

## 7. Other persons, or classes of persons, previously determined to be Specified Persons

- a. Any other person or class of persons who, before 2 April 2020, was granted an exemption from a requirement to quarantine by the Secretary of the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.

## 8. Other persons, or classes of persons, approved by the State Controller

If your application for Essential Traveller status has not been received and approved by the time you arrive in Tasmania, you must begin the mandatory 14 days of quarantine in government provided accommodation until your application is approved.

Essential Travellers must comply with listed quarantine conditions directed by the State Controller under section 40 of the *Emergency Management Act 2006*.

