



VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

VETERINARY SURGEONS BOARD OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA 2021 E-BULLETIN #7

COVID-19 SA OFFICIAL DIRECTIONS - Shut down of non-essential services: Veterinary services

Dear Veterinary Surgeons

Please find below important information published by the South Australian Government about **COVID-19 OFFICIAL DIRECTIONS** which will take effect from **12.01am on Thursday 19 November 2020**.

From 12.01am on Thursday 19 November 2020 for a period of six (6) days, people will only be able to leave their homes in South Australia for prescribed reasons.

Relevantly, **veterinary surgeons and veterinary services providers in South Australia will be permitted to remain operational BUT ONLY TO MAINTAIN CRITICAL SERVICES.**

Operating critical veterinary services during the Government mandated shut-down period is a privileged position for veterinary surgeons and veterinary services providers. There are high public expectations around the conduct of veterinary surgeons during this time. Veterinary surgeons must act to protect and uphold this privileged position. This means **ONLY** carrying out essential, critical services.

The State Government's Official Directions mean that the **Veterinary Surgeons Board of South Australia's *GUIDELINE: OPERATING VETERINARY SERVICES IN THE EVENT OF A GOVERNMENT DIRECTED COVID-19 SHUT DOWN OF NON-ESSENTIAL BUSINESSES*** will take effect from 12.01am on Thursday 19 November 2020. A copy of the Guideline, which was released to all veterinary surgeons by email on 8 April 2020, is attached.

The Guideline will assist veterinary surgeons and veterinary services providers to make decisions about which veterinary services to provide during the shut-down period and which services to postpone.

COVID-19 Circuit breaker restrictions - 18 November 2020

The following information is published on the South Australian Government COVID-19 website: <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/response>



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As you are probably now aware South Australia will be implementing a circuit breaker from 12:01 am Thursday, 19 November 2020 for the next six days aiming to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our state.

Official Directions will be published and instructions will be provided in further detail later in the day as the situation progresses.

Please remain calm and we will provide further detail as soon as we can.

South Australia will pause, and people will need to remain at home for the next six days.

The following list is not complete we are currently working through the restrictions but are current at the time of this post.

The following will be permitted to remain OPERATIONAL to maintain critical services only:

- *Critical infrastructure including power, telecommunications, water*
- *Supermarkets for essential food*
- *Medical supplies and medical services*
- *Public transport*
- *Airport and essential freight*
- *Petrol stations*
- *Post Offices and Banking institutions*
- *Child care and schools for essential services workers only*
- *Veterinary*
- *Essential agriculture services*
- *Factories remain open for essential machinery upkeep and production of essential products only*
- *Mining and smelting for continuity and to prevent damage.*

People will only be able to leave the house for the following reasons:

- *To go to work as an emergency services worker or to worker providing essential services*
- *For agricultural work*
- *To receive medical care including seeking COVID-19 testing*
- *To obtain medical supplies*
- *One person from the household once a day to attend supermarkets to obtain essential supplies*
- *Organised end of life visits*



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- *In an emergency situation.*

Masks must be worn outside of the home at all times.

NOTE YOU CAN NOT LEAVE YOUR HOUSE TO EXERCISE.

The following businesses will CLOSE:

- *Takeaway food services*
- *Shops (excluding essential food services)*
- *Universities and tertiary education facilities*
- *Pubs/restaurants/café/food courts*
- *Elective surgery/ except cancer*
- *Open inspections and auctions*
- *Fly in fly out worker*
- *Aged care and disability facilities will go into lockdown*
- *Construction industry*
- *Holiday homes and other holiday accommodation and no further bookings*
- *Wedding and funerals cancelled and banned*
- *Outdoor sport/fitness/exercise not permitted*
- *Regional travel not permitted*

USEFUL LINKS

- <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au>
- www.openyourworld.sa.gov.au
- www.health.gov.au/health-topics/novel-coronavirus-COVID-19
- www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/
- <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/get-support/national-help-lines-and-websites>

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

- Coronavirus Health Information Line: 1800 020 080
- SA Health Mental Health Hotline: 1800 632 753
- Lifeline: 13 11 14
- Beyond Blue: 1300 22 4636

18 November 2021