

**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 2011  
APPLICATION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ACT 2004**

**DIRECTION OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OF  
THE DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING  
IN RELATION TO MASS GATHERINGS**

The World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 a pandemic on 11 March 2020.

On 15 March 2020 a public health emergency in relation to the transmission of COVID-19 was declared pursuant to section 87 of the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*.

NOW I, Dr Christopher McGowan, Chief Executive of the Department for Health and Wellbeing, pursuant to sections 89(1) and 90(1) of the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011* and sections 25(2)(f), 25(2)(fb) and 25(i) of the *Emergency Management Act 2004*, make the following direction:

**Directions**

1. A person who is in a position to do so in relation to a place or **premises** in the State of South Australia must not allow a **mass gathering** to occur on or at the place or premises.
2. A person must not organise a mass gathering or a gathering that is reasonably likely to be a public gathering on or at a place or premises in the State of South Australia.
3. A person must not attend a mass gathering on or at a place or premises in the State of South Australia.

**Definition of mass gathering:**

4. A **mass gathering** means:
  - a. any gathering of five hundred (500) or more persons in a single undivided **outdoor space** at the same time; or
  - b. any gathering of one hundred (100) or more persons in a single undivided **indoor space** at the same time;but does **not** include a gathering:
  - c. at an airport that is necessary for the normal business of the airport;
  - d. for the purposes of or related to public transportation, including in vehicles or at public transportation facilities such as stations, platforms and stops;
  - e. at a medical or health service facility that is necessary for the normal business of the facilities;
  - f. for the purposes of emergency services;

- g. at a disability of aged care facility that is necessary for the normal business of the facility;
- h. at a prison, correctional facility, youth justice centre or other place of custody;
- i. at a court or tribunal
- j. at Parliament for the purpose of its normal operations;
- k. at a food market, supermarket, grocery store, retail store, shopping centre that is necessary for the normal business of those premises;
- l. at an office building, factory, mining or construction site that is necessary for the normal operation of those premises;
- m. at a school, university, educational institution or childcare facility that is necessary for the normal business of the facility;
- n. at a hotel, motel or other accommodation facility that is necessary for the normal operation of accommodation services;
- o. at an outdoor place where five hundred (500) or more persons may be present for the purposes of transitioning through the place;

*Example: Rundle Mall*

- p. exempted from this direction in writing by the Chief Public Health Officer, or delivered by an operator who has a social distancing policy approved in writing by the Chief Public Health Officer.
5. For the purposes of paragraph 4(m), a school event that involves members of the community in addition to staff and students is deemed not necessary for the normal business of the facility.

Note: The intended effect of paragraph 5 is that a school event that involves members of the community in addition to staff and students will be a mass gathering if it involves a gathering of five hundred (500) or more persons in a single undivided outdoor space at the same time, or a gathering of one hundred (100) or more persons in a single undivided indoor space at the same time. School events include assemblies, sporting events or parent-teacher events.

### **Other Definitions**

For the purposes of the directions in paragraphs 1, 2 and 3:

- 6. **Premises** has the same meaning as in s 3 of the *South Australian Public Health Act 2011*.
- 7. **Indoor space** means an area, room or premises that is or are substantially enclosed by a roof and walls, regardless of whether the roof or walls or any part of them are –
  - a. permanent or temporary; or

b. open or closed.

8. **Outdoor space** means a space that is not an indoor space.

**Note: the exclusions identified in this direction may be reviewed on a day to day basis in light of changing conditions.**

This direction operates from the date of signing by the Chief Executive of the Department for Health and Wellbeing.

SIGNED at ..... Adeleide ..... on this ..... 18<sup>th</sup> ..... day of  
..... MARCH ..... 2020 at ..... 16:45 ..... hours.

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**DR CHRISTOPHER MCGOWAN**  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE  
DEPARTMENT FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING