

COVID-19 FACT SHEET

COVID-19 Response Levels

Principles

- The NSW RFS has established COVID-19 Response Levels.
- State Operations will monitor public alerts regarding COVID-19 outbreaks and may assign a COVID-19 Response Level, based on health advice.
- The Response Level may apply to a NSW RFS site or location, or all NSW RFS locations in a District or LGA, depending on an assessment of health advice.
- The Response Levels outline actions for staff and volunteers in the area or location identified.

Actions and Advice

There are three Response Levels, with the following principles:

COVID Response Level 1	COVID Response Level 2	COVID Response Level 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Normal operational working level where standard COVIDSafe practices are required to be in place. ➤ There are limited numbers of confirmed cases and no reported outbreaks in the area of the NSW RFS location (brigade or office). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ General elevated risk where additional COVID-19 restrictions are required to be in place. ➤ COVID-19 outbreaks are typically confined to geographic areas or clusters linked to specific locations. ➤ This level may apply to brigades and office locations when there is a confirmed case location (cluster) in the local government area, or where there is an increased risk of community transmission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Highest risk level where extreme COVID restrictions are required to be in place. ➤ There is widespread community transmission of COVID-19, and widespread restrictions on community activities. ➤ There is significant impact on availability of personnel, including members available to respond to incidents.

Members are to familiarise themselves with the attached levels and actions.

Further Information

- Check www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus for updates.

Information as at 11 August 2021

NSW RFS COVID-19 Response Levels

- The NSW RFS (State Operations) will monitor public alerts regarding COVID-19 outbreaks and may assign a COVID-19 Response Level based on health advice.
- The Response Level may apply to a NSW RFS site or location, or all NSW RFS locations in a District or LGA, depending on an assessment of health advice.

Vaccination is strongly encouraged for all NSW RFS members. Check www.health.nsw.gov.au for latest advice.

COVID Response Level 1	COVID Response Level 2	COVID Response Level 3
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Normal operational working level where standard COVIDSafe practices are required to be in place. There are limited numbers of confirmed cases and no reported outbreaks in the area of the NSW RFS location (brigade or office). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General elevated risk where additional COVID-19 restrictions are required to be in place. COVID-19 outbreaks are typically confined to geographic areas or clusters linked to specific locations. This level may apply to brigades and office locations when there is a confirmed case location (cluster) in the local government area, or where there is an increased risk of community transmission. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highest risk level where extreme COVID restrictions are required to be in place. There is widespread community transmission of COVID-19, and widespread restrictions on community activities. There is significant impact on availability of personnel, including members available to respond to incidents.
Organisational Principles		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential and non-essential activities can continue with COVIDSafe practices. Alternative work arrangements continue for identified at-risk members and locations where heightened COVIDSafe practices are required. NSW Government public health orders may prescribe additional restrictions to be followed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NSW RFS activities are restricted to essential activities only. Where an essential activity is undertaken, COVIDSafe practices are to be followed. Arrangements will be put in place to help limit potential spread, including alternative work arrangements. NSW Government public health orders may prescribe additional restrictions to be followed. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Activities are limited to emergency response and identified essential activities only. Essential activities are updated regularly at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus Alternative work arrangements apply. NSW Government public health orders may prescribe additional restrictions to be followed.
Actions for Individuals		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If are unwell, do not attend NSW RFS activities or locations If you have been to an identified case location, or identified as a close or casual contact of a COVID-19 case, follow NSW Health requirements for testing and isolation. Follow the NSW RFS COVID-19 Response Action Process. If you have been in an area where there are confirmed cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor your health for any COVID-19 symptoms. Self isolate and get tested immediately if symptoms occur. People who are at greater risk from COVID-19 should not attend NSW RFS activities or locations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to NSW RFS locations and activities is restricted to essential activities only. If are unwell, do not attend NSW RFS activities or locations. If you have been to an identified case location, or identified as a close or casual contact of a COVID-19 case, follow NSW Health requirements for testing and isolation. Follow the NSW RFS COVID-19 Response Action Process. If you have been in an area where there are confirmed cases: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitor your health for any COVID-19 symptoms. Self isolate and get tested immediately if symptoms occur. People who are at greater risk from COVID-19 should not attend NSW RFS activities or locations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to NSW RFS locations and activities is restricted to emergency response and identified critical functions only, listed at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus. Follow the NSW RFS COVID-19 Response Action Process. If are unwell, do not attend NSW RFS activities or locations. People who are at greater risk from COVID-19 should not attend NSW RFS activities or locations.
Actions for Brigades		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-essential activities may be held if appropriate risk controls are in place. Follow COVIDSafe practices including physical distancing, hand hygiene, site cleaning, and limits on group sizes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to NSW RFS locations and activities is restricted to essential activities only. Follow COVID-safe practices including physical distancing, hand hygiene, site cleaning, and limits on group sizes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to NSW RFS locations and activities is restricted to emergency response and identified critical functions only.
Actions for Districts / Areas / Head Office or Other Work Locations		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> For non-critical functions, alternative work arrangements may apply including rotating teams or working from alternative locations. Follow COVIDSafe practices including physical distancing, hand hygiene, site cleaning, and limits on group sizes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternative working arrangements apply, including rotating teams or working from alternative locations. Access to NSW RFS locations is restricted to essential personnel only. Follow COVIDSafe practices including physical distancing, hand hygiene, site cleaning, and limits on group sizes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to work locations is restricted to critical functions only, such as emergency response.
Definitions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential activities are updated regularly based on the latest restrictions and health advice. These are published at www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/coronavirus Alternative working arrangements may include separation of personnel, rotation of teams or working from an alternative location, as approved. Identified case location refers to a site identified by NSW Health where there has been an identified COVID-19 case. An area where there are confirmed cases relates to the Local Government Area (LGA) where there are identified case locations. 		