

Factsheet: Resources Sector Interstate Arrivals to WA

Background

CME is working with Government to support the safety and health of the resources sector workforce, ensure that the resources sector does not impact the regions and communities it operates, and maintain operations and production wherever possible.

A [State of Emergency](#) has been declared in Western Australia under the Emergency Management Act. Under the State of Emergency declaration, a Direction and was enforced from 1:30pm on Tuesday 24 March 2020, that will restrict Western Australian borders in the interests of limiting the spread of COVID-19 in the community. The Direction impacts travellers by road, sea, air and rail. You can access the full Direction [here](#).

Essential industry exemption

The s.67 [Direction](#) issued by the WA Emergency Commissioner broadly defines exemptions for “specialist” and “essential” workers required for industry continuity and maintenance of operations, including FIFO personnel who regularly travel interstate for work purposes.

There is no prescriptive list of essential roles, and it is the responsibility of companies to determine those workers that are required to travel to site from interstate and would therefore qualify for the above resource sector exemption.

Guidelines for interstate arriving personnel

All personnel arriving from interstate are required to complete an [Arrivals Form](#). WA Police are on the ground at the airport overseeing this declaration process.

Personnel need to identify as an ‘Essential Worker’ by ticking the ‘Specialist Skills’ box on the Arrivals Form. Failing to nominate as exempt will from WA self-quarantine requirements on arrival to WA.

Personnel should carry ID (identifying their role and employing company) and a copy of travel itinerary (issued by company travel) to assist with this process.

Essential Traveller status

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

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

National and State Security and Governance Health services Transport, Freight and Logistics Specialist Skills Emergency Service Workers Special Exemptions

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

If you do not meet any of the criteria for Essential Traveller, you must isolate for 14 days.
You can apply for Special Exemption status from the Responsible Officer who hands you this form.

Specialist Skills are defined as critical to maintaining key industries or businesses, for example

- any specialists required for industry or business continuity and maintenance of competitive operations where the appropriate skills are not available in Western Australia, where the service is time-critical and where the provision of the service requires the person to be physically present in Western Australia; or
- any person who, in the course of his or her duties is responsible while in Western Australia for critical maintenance or repair of infrastructure critical to Western Australia.
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Personnel are reminded of their individual obligation to take all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person at any time (including while transiting through the airport).

Personnel are also requested to avoid unnecessary use of PPE while transiting. It has been well publicised that there is currently a critical shortage of certain public health supplies. These are unusual times and it is important as a sector we consider the implications on broader public health when implementing risk mitigation measures.

Company support

Companies need to be proactive in supporting resources sector personnel arriving from interstate. Best practice measures include:

- Companies having representatives present at the airport to assist with clearing personnel on arrival.
- Companies communicating with their interstate FIFO workforce regarding requirement to:
 - Complete an Arrivals Form and provide it to a Responsible Officer at the point of disembarkation.
 - Ensure personnel carry ID and copy of company-issued travel itinerary (as above).
 - Reminding personnel undertake all reasonable steps to avoid coming within 1.5 metres of another person at any time (including while transiting through the airport).
- As a last resort, personnel must have access to a company 'hotline' number who can assist with verifying their status and travel movements.

Intrastate Travel

CME understands existing travel arrangements through regular public transport (RPT) commercial airlines are continuing in line with the Government's announced exemption for workforces providing essential services. Additionally, some companies have opted for or are considering organising their own dedicated charter flights for

their essential interstate workforce to ensure full separation of their workforce from their point of origin to destination.

These existing options should continue to be the first point of call when coordinating your interstate travel, adopting adjustments as necessary in line with the exemption criteria as outlined by the State Government and under the Framework Guideline.

However, CME is exploring options for facilitating supplementary airline capacity to meet any surplus industry interstate travel demand for charter and/or should existing aviation mechanisms become unavailable. It is envisioned this service would primarily support companies (operators and service providers) with insufficient interstate staff numbers (ie to justify a dedicated charter).

CME is in the pre-planning phase of this initiative and has engaged specialist logistics consultants to design potential solutions to meet demand.

If you are a resource sector company and are interested in receiving more information and would be willing to complete our aviation demand survey please email aviation@cmewa.com .