



Staying Safe and Healthy: Australia's hosting of the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (APMCDRR) 19-22 September 2022 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

As Australia continues to respond to impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the health and safety of all participants attending the conference is our highest priority. To support the wellbeing of everyone travelling to attend the conference we will be providing important information relating to COVID-19.

Travelling to the conference

Do I need proof of a negative COVID-19 test or vaccination to travel to Australia?

- You no longer need to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test or vaccination to meet Australian inbound travel requirements.
- Some countries, airlines and vessel operators may require a pre-departure test result at check-in before you can board your flight or ship.
- Check the entry requirements of the country you are travelling to or transiting through, and your airline or vessel operator's requirements.
- Further information is available from [International travel and COVID-19 | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care](#).
- Visit the [Planning to travel during COVID-19: step by step | Smartraveller](#) for more information.

At the conference

Do I need proof of Vaccination to attend the conference?

- You no longer need to provide proof of a COVID-19 vaccination to travel to and from Australia or to attend public spaces in Queensland.
- To protect the health and safety of all participants attending the Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 19-22 September 2022, we recommend you are vaccinated before you attend the conference.
- Further information is available from [International travel and COVID-19 | Australian Government Department of Health and Aged Care](#).

Staying Safe and Healthy

- If you are unwell at any stage during the conference and exhibit signs and symptoms of COVID-19 or you are experiencing any cold or flu like symptoms such as fever, runny nose, coughing or sneezing we ask that you do not attend the conference while you are unwell.

Should I wear a Mask?

- We strongly recommend all participants attending the conference wear masks when indoors in public to limit the spread of infections including COVID-19 and other respiratory illnesses at the conference
 - You should bring a supply of suitable masks for your own use
 - A small supply of disposable masks will be available at the venue for delegates who cannot access their own.

Will there be additional surveillance such as testing or isolating during the conference?

- Any participant who experiences COVID-19 symptoms or becomes unwell during the conference should leave the venue and get tested.
- To ensure the health and safety of all participants attending the conference, we may implement a range of measures to protect the health and safety of all participants.
- These measures may include:
 - asking delegates to stay home if unwell (or in their hotel) and get tested;
 - strongly recommending everyone to wear masks while at the venue;
 - encouraging everyone to maintain a physical distance of 1.5m from others at all times;
 - encouraging everyone to wash their hands often, with soap and water or hand sanitiser;
 - encouraging everyone to practice good hygiene and clean surfaces, including in meeting rooms.

What if I am confirmed COVID-19 positive during the conference?

- It is an Australian public health requirement that anyone diagnosed with COVID-19 must isolate. If you have the virus, you can pass it on to others. Isolating protects the people around you and the broader community from COVID-19 [Isolation - coronavirus \(COVID-19\) | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government \(www.qld.gov.au\)](https://www.qld.gov.au/health-and-wellbeing/isolation-coronavirus-covid-19).
- Isolation means:
 - Staying at home - do not attend the conference, visit public areas, or travel on public transport, in taxis or ride share services.
 - Seek urgent medical attention if you are unwell.
 - The Emergency Fire, Police and Ambulance Services number in Australia is 000.
- **Surveillance and Testing**
 - Testing for COVID-19 remains an important way to help protect yourself.
 - The Australian Government Department of Health and Queensland Government will provide advice and guidance if this is required at the conference in accordance with Public Health Directions from Queensland Government.

Is the conference venue safe and able to maintain physical distance for participants?

- The Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre (BCEC) has continued to host significant large and successful events in a COVID Safe venue.
- BCEC has developed event protocols to safeguard the health and wellbeing of stakeholders and introduced control measures to ensure a safe operating environment.
- The BCEC Safe Event Guideline, developed in consultation with the Queensland Government and health authorities covers all areas of the Centre's operation underpinned by hygiene, health and safety.

What if I become unwell and cannot attend the conference in person?

- The APMCDRR will be run as a hybrid conference with the option for virtual attendance.
- Each plenary, working session and spotlight will be broadcast for delegates that cannot attend in person.