

9 May 2020

Dear Licensee/Business Owner

An Important Update on COVID-19 Restrictions

With your cooperation the ACT has collectively managed the first phase of the COVID-19 pandemic response. Your support through compliance with the Public Health Directions has been greatly appreciated and helped contribute to this positive outcome.

We are very aware how the restrictions have impacted on businesses.

Today the ACT Government has announced some progressive changes to the restrictions as we work to balance community safety with business and consumer confidence. It is important to note that any changes will be gradual, with safety remaining at the forefront of the restrictions.

What hasn't changed

- Physical distancing remains in place: this means four square metres per person or a spacing of 1.5 metres between people must be maintained
- Hygiene practices, including frequent hand washing and sanitisation is critical
- Frequent environmental cleaning must continue at your business

Visit the ACT Government's COVID-19 website www.covid19.act.gov.au for more information.

What the changes may mean to your business/industry

I can advise that the key changes to ACT restrictions which may impact you are:

- An increase in the number of people involved in outdoor personal training and boot camps to a **maximum of 10 people, excluding the instructor(s)**, with the following restrictions:
 - Participants should bring their own equipment where possible (e.g. gym mat).
 - Equipment should not be shared (for example weights, skipping ropes, medicine balls) and there should be no contact between participants, such as boxing, during sessions.

Advice and information about the practical application of these restrictions, including answers to commonly asked questions, is available [here](#).

Detailed information about the restrictions and changes are specified in the Public Health Direction at www.covid19.act.gov.au. This direction took effect from midnight, 9 May 2020.

To support safety, Access Canberra in partnership with Health Protection Services and ACT Policing, will continue to proactively monitor and ensure compliance with the restrictions.

Please note that a failure to comply with restrictions may be a breach of the *Public Health Act 1997* and can result in serious regulatory action.

Supporting you and your business

The ACT Government has put in place a number of supports for business and industry. I have listed some of these for ease of reference:

- The [Access Canberra Business Liaison Unit](#) and phone line (6205 0900) can provide information and advice to businesses on their compliance with requirements, diversifying their business and supports that are available. This service is available between 9am-5pm.
- [Economic Survival Packages](#) provide supports such as payroll tax deferral or waivers, electricity rebates, commercial tenancy relief and support for different industries
- The Canberra Business Advice and Support Service supports small businesses by providing four hours of free one-on-one, tailored, business management advice. You can make a booking with this service by calling 6297 3121 between 9am-5pm.

Stay informed

COVID-19 information from the ACT Government is being updated regularly. For the latest advice, including on restrictions please regularly visit:

- The [COVID-19 website](#) which has information for businesses navigating the restrictions as well as general support and information.

Should you have any other questions or concerns, please call the Business Liaison Unit on 6205 0900 for assistance.

Thank you for your cooperation as we move forward together.

Yours sincerely



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Engagement, Compliance and COVID-19 Response

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