

COVID-19: ACT Advice Family Law 12 August 2021

This factsheet is to provide information and help you understand your rights and obligations relating to COVID-19 and the public health directions in the ACT in the context of family law.

Do we still have to follow Family Law Orders during lockdown? Yes, you still need to follow Family Law Orders during lockdown.

Can we do changeover if that means leaving our homes?

Yes. However, where you changeover may be affected if handover was at a location now closed due to lockdown. Contact the other parent.

Can we do changeover if that involves going over the border of ACT?

Yes but you may need an exemption and you should check any requirement to quarantine that this might trigger. You can apply for an exemption and show the family law orders as your proof/reason to travel

If the other parent will not handover my child, what do I do?

If they will not respond to you or agree to follow the orders during lockdown, call us for help on **1300 654 314**.

What if I or my child have just had a COVID-19 test and are forced to isolate?

You do need to follow isolation health rules first. The Family Courts encourage parents to communicate with each other where it is safe to do so.

Are there any other circumstances where it's warranted to breach the Family Law Orders because of COVID-19?

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, you need to notify the other parent immediately if it is safe to do so, and get you and your child tested as soon as possible. Contact us for help if needed.

More information

More information can be found at the Australian Government Department of Health [COVID-19 health alert page](#). For information specific to the ACT, information can also be found at the ACT Health [COVID-19 page](#). There is also an ACT-specific helpline at: (02) 6207 7244 8am-8pm

If you need help with a legal issue, please call our Helpline on: 1300 354 314. Our Helpline staff can provide you legal advice and information on a range of matters.

This factsheet was reviewed on 1 September 2021.