



Pro Bono  
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## FAQ: Stay Home Notice

### Q: What is a Stay Home Notice?

**A:** A specified person (this refers to the Director for Medical Services or any police officer, immigration officer or appointed Health Officer) may, for the purpose of preventing the spread of COVID-19, order any at-risk individual to go to a place of accommodation (specified in the order or in writing by a specified person) and not leave the place of accommodation for a period specified in the order. The period may start upon the issue of the order and up to and including the 14th day after the day of the issue of the order.

Additionally, any individual who is issued a medical certificate by a medical practitioner with a valid practising certificate, certifying that the individual has acute respiratory symptoms must not leave the individual's place of accommodation for a period of 5 days starting on the day the medical certificate is issued.

### Q: What does it mean to be an at-risk individual?

**A:** It means an individual who:

- enters Singapore (by land, sea or air) from a country or territory outside Singapore during the control period (26 March 2020 to 1 June 2020);
- before or during the control period (26 March 2020 to 1 June 2020), comes into contact or has come into contact with any other individual who is, or is suspected to be, infected with COVID-19;
- has, before or during the control period (26 March 2020 to 1 June 2020), undergone a test to determine whether



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he or she is infected with COVID-19 and the test result is pending or uncertain; or

- d) at any time during the control period (*26 March 2020 to 1 June 2020*) appears to the specified person to be or have been exposed to the risk of becoming infected with or a carrier of COVID-19.

**Q: Are there any reasonable excuses allowing me to leave my place of accommodation?**

**A:** It is a reasonable excuse if you leave your place of accommodation for either of the following reasons:

- a) where necessary to obtain
  - i. medical treatment for a suspected COVID-19 infection at a hospital, medical clinic or any other place, designated by the Director for Medical Services for the treatment of COVID-19; or
  - ii. emergency medical treatment or other medical treatment that is of a pressing nature ;
- b) with the prior express permission of the Director for Medical Services, whether general or specific.

**Q: Under what circumstances would I have committed an offence if I am under a stay home notice?**

**A:** An individual who is not allowed to leave a place of accommodation commits an offence if the individual, without reasonable excuse:

- a) allows into that place of accommodation any other individual not ordinarily resident in that place of accommodation unless the other individual is:
  - i. delivering food or other essential goods to the place of accommodation;
  - ii. providing services necessary for the individuals living in that place of accommodation to avoid any imminent danger or damage to life or property in that place of accommodation;



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- iii. providing medical treatment or other medical therapy or care to an individual who has a physical or mental disability; or
  - iv. an appointed Health Officer or police officer;
- b) comes into contact or close proximity (ie there is a distance of less than 2 metres between the 2 individuals) with any individual not ordinarily resident in that place of accommodation unless the other individual is:
- i. providing services necessary for the individuals living in that place of accommodation to avoid any imminent danger or damage to life or property in that place of accommodation;
  - ii. providing medical treatment or other medical therapy or care to an individual who has a physical or mental disability; or
  - iii. an appointed Health Officer or police officer;
- c) fails or neglects to wear a surgical or other mask over the individual's nose and mouth when the individual leaves the place of accommodation in situations mentioned in the answer above;
- d) fails or neglects to inform the individual's employer or the principal of the school in which the individual is enrolled as a student or teaches at (as the case may be) that the individual is subject to a movement control measure; or
- e) does not answer within a reasonable time any call or message sent by or under the authority of the Director for Medical Services or an appointed Health Officer.

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**The information contained in this FAQ is correct as of 21 May 2020**

This FAQ was authored by the following students from the SMU School of Law as a service to the community:  
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