

Ensuring Juror Safety during COVID-19

Factsheet



In consultation with NSW Health, the Office of the Sheriff has implemented measures to reduce the risk of COVID-19 and ensure jury service is safer, including:

- Wearing of masks
- Physical distancing
- Individualised jury meals
- Rapid Antigen Screening (RAS)
- Releasing persons most at risk.
- Additional commercial cleaning
- The provision of hand sanitiser stations
- Limited access to courts to allow for physical distancing
- Additional screening measures

What is Rapid Antigen Screening (RAS)?

RAS is quick and easy. It involves a nasal swab using a small cotton bud-like instrument that is placed into a chemical solution. RAS displays a result within approximately 15 minutes.

RAS differs from the PCR test, which involves taking a deep nasal sample and throat sample and is tested in a laboratory.

Rapid antigen screening is a tool to help detect COVID-19 in people without any symptoms.

Payment for jury service

If you get selected as a juror, you will be paid an allowance. Jury allowance payments are made weekly by electronic funds transfers to your nominated bank account. Please log onto juror.nsw.gov.au and enter your bank account details prior to your court attendance. For more information please go to:

<https://courts.nsw.gov.au/courts-and-tribunals/for-jurors/for-individuals/-payment-for-jury-service.html>

Daily rate for jury service allowances

Days of trial	Daily rate	Employment status
Days 1 to 11	\$106.30 a day	All jurors
Days 11 to trial end	\$247.40 a day	Jurors who are employed
Days 11 to trial end	\$106.30 a day	Jurors who are not employed

What to Expect at Court

On the day of your summons, you will arrive to your court complex and be directed to an area with that has been set up to ensure that you have enough space for physical distancing practices. A Court or Sheriff officer will ask you some relevant screening questions and then check your availability to serve.

All of our court rooms and jury spaces have been carefully selected to ensure they meet physical distancing standards. These spaces are regularly cleaned by specialised commercial cleaners to reduce the risk of COVID-19. Hand sanitiser stations will be available.

To enhance physical distancing, public access to the courtroom will be limited so you'll have room to spread out. Many of the court participants will be appearing by Audio Visual Link (AVL).

Your safety is our priority. We are actively working with NSW Health to ensure we are all able to participate in the justice system in a safe manner.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on COVID-19 and jury service can be found at:

<https://www.coronavirus.dcj.nsw.gov.au/?a=820302>

