



COVID-19 Information – Obtaining support letters for NAFC fleet contracts

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NAFC has two main types of contracts (1) Fleet Contracts and (2) Call When Needed Contracts. Operators that hold either type of contract are able to access ARENA in order to generate a *Certificate of Engagement*. The *Certificate of Engagement* is a means for Operators to produce evidence for an individual delivering essential aerial firefighting services, who may encounter a traffic stop or traffic checkpoint in their duties.

From time to time, NAFC receives requests for letters of support from operators to support their applications for travel exemptions with government departments.

NAFC will consider writing a Letter of Support to support Fleet Contract holders in obtaining such exemptions, for the specific contract.

A Letter of Support will contain the following information:

- Name of operator
- Confirmation the operator is contracted to provide aerial firefighting services
- States/territories operating in
- Service Period commencement date/s
- A generic statement that having contracted aerial firefighting services in place for the start of the fire season/the relevant Service Period is vitally important to the states and territories.

NAFC reminds operators that planning for and arranging for travel into Australia or between states and territories is the responsibility of operators. While NAFC can provide the above written support, the Federal/state and territory governments govern their own rules and exemptions regarding arrival caps and conditions for permission for entry etc., and any difficulties operators may encounter are fundamentally a matter for operators to resolve with the given Federal/state and territory government.

Before requesting a Letter of Support from NAFC, operators should consider whether a Certificate of Engagement is sufficient. If, after reviewing the above information, operators determine that a Letter of Support is required, please email covid@nafc.org.au detailing the specific circumstances relating to your issue.