

TERTIARY EDUCATION SETTINGS CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

13 AUGUST 2021 – VERSION 17

This fact sheet is for all tertiary education providers, including Learn Locals, TAFEs, registered training organisations and universities. **This includes organisations located in both metropolitan Melbourne and regional Victoria.**

The information in this document is current as of publication.

Tertiary education providers should continue to monitor information as it becomes available via the Department of Health (DH) website. Please refer to the latest information to ensure the most accurate advice.

Can staff members and students attend training providers' premises?

Metropolitan Melbourne:

In line with advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, as at 8pm Thursday 5 August 2021 all TAFEs, universities, Learn Locals and other training providers in Victoria must close and may only deliver remote learning.

Organisations should review the updated [Authorised provider and authorised worker list](#), as students whose studies are associated with permitted operations may attend on-site for study and activities that cannot be done from home. If students can study from home, they must continue to study from home.

To the extent possible, TAFEs, universities and other training providers should continue to ensure that students have access to digital and remote learning classrooms and materials to enable learning from home.

All non-essential staff members are required to work from home during this period unless they are referenced on the [Authorised provider and authorised worker list](#)

Regional Victoria:

In line with advice from the Victorian Chief Health Officer, as at 11:59pm Monday 9 August 2021 all TAFE, universities, Learn

Locals and training providers located in regional Victoria can reopen. However, students should continue to study from home where possible.

Density limits of 1 person per 4 square metres apply to all areas on site, except for learning spaces used exclusively by students, for example lecture halls.

Students and staff who reside in metropolitan Melbourne and are enrolled or work in a regional TAFE, university or training institution can only attend on site if their study is listed on the [Authorised provider and authorised worker list](#).

Can face-to-face learning occur for VCE/VCAL/VETiS students?

VCE/VCAL/VETiS students who are located in metropolitan Melbourne and attend a TAFE, non-school senior secondary provider, training organisation or school in metropolitan Melbourne must continue to learn from home unless they are on the [Authorised provider and authorised worker list](#).

VCE/VCAL/VETiS students who are located in metropolitan Melbourne but who attend a regionally located TAFE or training organisation must continue to learn from home unless they are on the [Authorised provider and authorised worker list](#).

VCE/VCAL/VETiS students who are regionally located and who attend a regionally located TAFE, non-school senior secondary provider, training organisation, or classes that are held in other schools can continue to attend on-site. Schools should contact their RTOs for information about changes to their current operating arrangements.

What are the clinical placement requirements?

Training and assessment for health, aged, and disability care workers, including clinical placements, is permitted in line with the [Authorised provider and authorised worker list](#).

Are face masks required for training and/or assessment?

Regardless of location, face masks must be worn indoors and outdoors whenever you leave your home unless an exception applies. This includes when conducting training and/or assessment, if permitted in line with the [Authorised provider and authorised worker list](#).

What are the arrangements for students and staff in Victorian border communities?

Victorian Residents:

Students and staff who live in Victorian border communities and are enrolled in or work in a TAFE, university or training provider in a bordering state will be able to attend on site if permitted by that State, and in accordance with any relevant travel permits.

NSW and SA Residents:

If you live in a NSW or South Australian Local Government Area within the cross-border area, you do not need to apply for a permit to enter Victoria, provided:

- you are not a diagnosed person or a close contact of a diagnosed person
- you are not experiencing COVID-19 symptoms
- you have not been in an extreme risk zone or red zone outside of the cross-border area at any time after the

relevant zone commencement time in the previous 14 days

To travel into Victoria without a permit, people who live in the cross-border community need to carry proof of address (such as a driver's licence).

Please refer to the [Information for cross-border communities](#) for an updated list of permitted Local Government Areas, as this information has recently changed.

Please also visit the relevant State's government websites for information relating to current restrictions.

Is Electronic Record Keeping for onsite attendance still required?

All workplaces including TAFE, university and training provider settings, must use the Victorian Government QR Code Service. To register your organisation for a QR Code, click [here](#).

All staff, contractors, visitors and students must use the Service Vic app to check in to all venues and facilities within the campus.

Additionally, venues must make reasonable efforts to provide an iPad or other device for people who do not have access to a device, or use alternative record keeping system (such as pen and paper) when it is not practicable for a person to record their attendance using QR codes, or where there is a technical access issue with QR codes.

To find out more about the Victorian Government QR Code service go to: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/gr-codes-and-digital-record-keeping-contact-tracing>.

USEFUL LINKS

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/tafe-training-providers-apprentices-and-trainees>

<https://www.education.vic.gov.au/training/Pages/coronavirus-advice-tafe.aspx>

<https://www.business.vic.gov.au/business-information/covid-19-business-information>

<https://www.vrqa.vic.gov.au/aboutus/Pages/covid-19info.aspx>

<https://www.asqa.gov.au/covid-19>

<https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/health-service-planning-covid-19>

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine>

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/mental-health-hygiene-and-wellbeing-tafe>

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/information-cross-border-communities>

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorian-travel-permit-system>

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/qr-codes-and-digital-record-keeping-contact-tracing>

<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/how-we-work-current-restrictions>