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Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Friday 1 October 2021

Dear Student,

The Victorian Government has announced a snap 7-day lockdown for the Moorabool local government area from 11.59pm tonight due to a COVID-19 outbreak.

This area includes Ballan, Bacchus Marsh and other smaller towns to the east of Ballarat. We understand some of our students live in this area and may travel to our Ballarat or Wimmera campuses for authorised work or study.

The lockdown means that the Moorabool local government area is under metropolitan Melbourne lockdown restrictions (excluding curfew) until 11:59pm Friday 8 October.

For students living in Moorabool, please follow the lockdown restrictions and do not attend campus unless you have a permit for authorised work or study. There is advice below on obtaining a permit.

You can find more detailed information on restrictions at <u>www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au</u>.

Key advice for Federation students

Seeking an authorised work or higher education permit

Students who live in the Moorabool local government area will now need a permit

to attend our Ballarat or Wimmera campuses for permitted practical activities. To apply, find the application form and information on <u>limited authorised worker</u> <u>categories</u> at <u>Authorised provider and authorised worker permit | Coronavirus</u> <u>Victoria</u>. Students should then email their application to the appropriate contact below and cannot attend campus until the permit is approved.

- Higher education student permits email <u>WIL@federation.edu.au</u>
- HDR student permits email <u>dean.gradstudies@federation.edu.au</u>

Student support services are available

We know that many students are struggling with lockdown and we want to remind you that we are here to help if you need it. The <u>current students page</u> has links to a range of resources including counselling, academic support, personal support and resources to help you study online.

If you are feeling anxious or distressed, you can talk with a Federation University counsellor free of charge, via phone or online. You can <u>make an appointment here</u>. Federation also has a special crisis line operating in the evening, on weekends and public holidays; call 1300 758 109 (in Australia) and SMS +61 480 089 177 and request a call back (if overseas).

What to do if you have COVID-19 or have visited an exposure site

Please let us know immediately by calling the Federation COVID-19 hotline if you are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 or have visited an exposure site.

- During business hours, call (03) 5122 6300 (from 8.30 am to 5 pm).
- After hours, call our emergency number 1800 333 732 if you test positive. If you test negative, leave a message on the hotline number.

Details of students who call the hotline will be kept confidential and will only be shared with those directly involved in our COVID-19 response.

Check public exposure sites daily

The list of COVID-19 public exposures sites is growing as contact tracers work with people who have tested positive. We highly recommend that you check the list of Victorian exposure sites each day at <u>coronavirus.vic.gov.au/exposure-sites</u>. Please note that exposure sites are listed by suburb name rather than region.

COVID-19 vaccinations

We strongly encourage you to get the COVID-19 vaccination as the best way to protect yourself, your loved ones and your communities from the virus. All higher education and TAFE students are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. You can book a vaccination through a government-run clinic or via your GP or pharmacist. For vaccination information in your state, go to:

- Victoria: Book your vaccine appointment
- Queensland: <u>Protect yourself and others</u>.

Stay safe and stay well.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group





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