

Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Tuesday 17 August 2021

Dear Student,

Lockdown has been extended for Melbourne metropolitan areas for a further two weeks on the advice of Victoria's Chief Health Officer.

The announcement yesterday acknowledged the weariness of many Victorians over lockdowns but urged Victorians to remember the success of our past lockdowns, and the need to get this outbreak under control quickly.

The following are the additional restrictions for the greater Melbourne metropolitan area until Thursday 2 September, which primarily impact students at Berwick Campus. You can find detailed advice at COVIDSafe Settings.

- A curfew is now in place. You must stay home from 9 pm to 5 am.
- Permits are required for authorised work and authorised higher education from 11:59 pm tonight. If you can work or study from home, you must do so.
 If you need an authorised work or higher education permit and are eligible, you should complete the permit form available in Inplace and submit to WIL@federation.edu.au.
- Outdoor exercise equipment, basketball courts and playgrounds will close for the extended lockdown period.
- Two hours exercise is limited to two people or only your household. No social gatherings outdoors or visitors to your home.

Below are the current arrangements in place across our campuses. Across all campuses, staff and students must wear face masks at all times (aside from teaching, eating or drinking), scan QR codes on arrival at campus and maintain 1.5 metres physical distance wherever possible. Please do not come to campus if you

are unwell. If you have any symptoms of COVID-19 (cold or flu symptoms, fever, loss of taste or smell) please get tested and isolate until you receive a negative result.

Berwick Campus – Melbourne metro area lockdown until Thursday 2 September

- Berwick Campus remains closed until Friday 3 September.
- Higher education at Berwick remains online until Friday 3 September.
 However, limited practical activities will continue on campus in essential study areas such as Clinical Health and in the final year of study in Education. If you need an authorised work or higher education permit and are eligible, you should complete the permit form available in Inplace and submit to WIL@federation.edu.au.
- You will be contacted directly via email and/or Moodle with advice.
- If you live in the Melbourne metropolitan area but study at a regional Victorian campus, you must study from home, unless you are classified as carrying out authorised study or work, under Victorian Government restrictions.

Brisbane Campus – SE QLD restrictions until 4 pm Sunday 22 August

- Federation University's Brisbane Campus is open.
- Brisbane students can study on campus. Check Moodle for normal timetable information.
- Full details of restrictions can be found at COVID-19 update | Health and wellbeing | Queensland Government (www.qld.gov.au)

Regional Victorian campuses – restrictions in place since Monday 9 August

- Ballarat, Gippsland and Wimmera campuses are open.
- Practical learning activities in higher education and TAFE have resumed on campus but non-practical activities continue online until restrictions are further eased. Students are welcome to visit campus if they need to.
- Fed College and Ballarat Tech School have resumed on campus.
- Placements in industries such as healthcare and education continue onsite, with alternative arrangements including work from home for other placements.

- Libraries, fitness centres, hospitality and retail are open on campus but with restrictions in place.
- If you live in the Melbourne metropolitan area but study at a regional
 Victorian campus, you must study from home. In strictly limited cases, some
 may be classified as carrying out authorised study or work under Victorian
 Government restrictions and will be contacted individually.
- You can find full details of restrictions at <u>COVID Safe Settings in regional</u>
 Victoria.

Placements

The University will work with students and placement providers to make alternative arrangements where possible, including working from home if the placement allows. Clinical Health and final year Education students are deemed to work in essential services.

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. This is not the start to Semester 2 that any of us had planned for and if you are struggling, please reach out for help.

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 – but we hope this will be a short lockdown so the impact on Semester 2 will be limited.

Federation University's on-campus health centres are also open if you have any general health issues. Do not attend the centres if you have any COVID-19 symptoms (cold, flu, cough, fever). You should instead get tested and isolate until you return a negative result, and can phone for options to speak to a GP or nurse. Go to the health services page for information and contact details.

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>. If you experience mental health challenges outside of business hours, Federation has a special crisis line operating in the evening, on weekends and public holidays: call 1300 758 109 (in Australia) or SMS +61 480 089 177 and request a call back (if overseas).

Federation COVID-19 hotline details

Please let us know immediately if you are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 by calling our hotline on (03) 5122 6300 (8.30 am to 5 pm). After hours, if you return a positive COVID-19 test, please contact our emergency phone number 1800 333 732 so we can put in place cleaning and isolation measures.

To find past Coronavirus Updates, please check your emails or visit Federation University Australia's response to the coronavirus - Federation University Australia.

Stay safe and stay well.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group











Website Instagram YouTube



Federation.edu.au **1800 FED UNI**

CRICOS Provider No. 00103D | RTO 4909

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