



Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Wednesday 6 October 2021

Dear Student,

Good news for our students in the Gippsland region with the lifting of lockdown for the City of Latrobe at 11.59 pm last night.

However, with case numbers rising significantly across Melbourne and regional Victoria, it has never been so important to remain vigilant in complying with restrictions and getting vaccinated as soon as you can.

Below is information on our campus operations, COVIDSafe measures and key contacts and resources.

Campus operations

Ballarat, Gippsland and Wimmera campuses are open for approved student activity, in accordance with government COVIDSafe restrictions.

- Higher education, TAFE and HDR studies continue online, aside from limited practical on-campus activities, aligned to the authorised worker list. Students will be contacted directly if applicable to them.
- Campus facilities and services are open but with density limits in place (libraries remain closed).
- A permit system applies for all students from Metropolitan Melbourne, Mitchell Shire, City of Greater Shepparton or Moorabool Shire (any area in lockdown) to visit other campuses. To apply, find the application form and information on our [WIL webpage](#).

Berwick Campus is closed in line with lockdown restrictions.

- Limited authorised activity for students on campus with an approved work or study permit (affected students will be contacted directly if required on campus).

Brisbane Campus remains open and is unaffected by the Victorian restrictions.

You can find more detailed information on restrictions at www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au and www.covid19.qld.gov.au.

Key principles for the safe transition to work on campus

If you are working or studying on campus, four key safety principles apply:

1. If you feel unwell – don't come to campus. If you have symptoms similar to COVID-19 you must get tested for COVID-19 as soon as possible and self-isolate until you receive a negative result.
2. Physical distancing measures apply, and you must wear a face masks indoors and outdoors on campus. See www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/face-masks for more information.
3. Frequently wash or sanitise hands and clean any surfaces you touch with sanitising wipes when using campus spaces (sanitiser etc. is supplied by the University).
4. QR code scanning is mandatory at all universities and TAFEs. All of our QR codes come from the [Service Victoria app](#) and [Check In Qld app](#).

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 [current students page](#) 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 [make an appointment here](#). 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 coronavirus.vic.gov.au/exposure-sites. 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 Victoria visit [Book your vaccine appointment](#) and for Queensland visit [Protect yourself and others](#).

Stay safe and stay well.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group



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