



Coronavirus Update

Tuesday 29 June 2021

Dear colleagues,

While the COVID-19 outbreak in Victoria appears to be under control, staff and students in Brisbane and areas around Queensland go into a three-day lockdown as of 6:00pm this evening. The Queensland Premier has announced that this is due to a number of local cases of COVID-19 recorded over recent days.

As a result of the lockdown, Brisbane Campus will temporarily close tonight until Monday 5 July.

Tougher border restrictions are also now in force for interstate travel, which may impact staff planning to travel over the school holidays or returning from holidays. See further information below.

Queensland restrictions

As of 6:00pm tonight, anyone who is living or staying in the following local government areas (LGAs) will have only four permitted reasons to leave their residence – ***Brisbane, Noosa, Sunshine Coast, Ipswich, Logan, Redlands, Moreton Bay, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Scenic Rim, Lockyer Valley, Somerset, Townsville City and Palm Island Aboriginal Shire.***

The four permitted reasons to leave your home are:

- obtaining essential goods or services, including healthcare (including vaccinations)
- exercise (with your household or one other person not from your household)
- attending essential work or childcare, only if you cannot work from home
- assisting vulnerable persons.

Face masks – you must carry a face mask at all times when you leave home, unless you have a lawful reason not to. You must wear a mask in indoor spaces. Masks may be removed when sitting down to eat and drink, undertaking strenuous exercise and for employment purposes – [find details of exceptions here.](#)

Visitors to your home – you can only have two visitors to your home.

What's open and closed – childcare centres remain open. Restaurants and cafes can

only provide takeaway or home delivery. Non-essential businesses will close, such as cinemas, entertainment and recreation venues, hairdressers, beauty and personal care services, gyms and places of worship.

For further details on the restrictions [please see the restrictions in QLD update](#). We also ask that all of our Queensland staff and students [check the list of current contact tracing sites](#) to make sure that if you have been at an exposure site, you can follow the testing and isolation directions to keep the community safe.

Key advice to Federation staff

Working from home

- All Brisbane Campus staff must work from home. Staff should not return to campus until Monday 5 July.
- If your job cannot be performed from home, there is no need to take special leave. Please consider if there are any administrative or professional development tasks, such as your PRDP, compliance modules in ELMO, LinkedIn Learning etc. that you can catch up on during this time.
- Please consider the equipment that you'll need to work effectively from home. Many staff will already have adequate equipment set up at home to work effectively.
- No on-campus events or activities involving students can go ahead for the rest of the week – pending government advice on restrictions being lifted.

Employee Assistance Program and support

- We understand that going through a lockdown can be distressing or trigger strong emotions for some people. If you need to speak to someone independently, we strongly encourage you to [contact the Employee Assistance Program \(EAP\)](#). EAP is open 24/7 and can be contacted via the link above or over the phone on 1300 OUR EAP (1300 687 327) or 03 8681 2444. You can also access our [Mental health and wellbeing guide](#).

Federation COVID-19 hotline details

You must let us know if you are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19, so we can put in place a swift response including appropriate leave arrangements, concentrated cleaning and to assist in contact tracing if a case is confirmed.

- During business hours: COVID-19 hotline (03) 5122 6300 (8:30am to 5:00pm).
- Outside business hours: emergency phone number 1800 333 732 for confirmed cases (positive test result). For a negative result, please call the COVID-19 hotline the next day during business hours.

Border restrictions for interstate travel

There have been significant changes to border restrictions on travel between states in Australia.

Due to outbreaks in NSW, QLD, NT, WA and ACT, there are now restrictions in place if you return to Victoria from certain areas within these states. You can find a full [map of green, orange and red zones here](#). If you return from an orange or red zone to Victoria, there will be 3-day or 14-day isolation and testing requirements.

All states require you to get a travel permit before arriving at the border or the airport. We strongly encourage you to check the following websites for advice before you travel, [Victorian Travel Permit System](#) and [QLD Travel Declaration](#), as well as the advice at your destination state.

Thank you for everyone's cooperation with the changing restrictions in Brisbane.

We look forward to things being back to normal for the start of semester two across all of our campuses.

Stay safe.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group

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