



Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Thursday 3 September 2020

Dear Student,

As the weekend approaches, we know our students are keen to hear the Victorian Government's announcements about the roadmap out of stage 4 and stage 3 restrictions, with different plans anticipated for metropolitan and regional Victoria.

University leadership will meet first thing on Monday to start assessing the government's announcements and how these may impact our transition plans to bring staff and students onto campus at Federation University, Federation TAFE and in research fields.

The safety of our students and staff is always at the forefront for us, and we must remind you all that regardless of the government's announcement, studying online continues for most of us. It is our key safeguard to reduce the risk of COVID-19 on campus and in the community.

Please do not come onto campus unless you are approved to do so.

We look forward to providing an updated plan with you as soon as possible later next week.

Your health and wellbeing

We understand that the lockdown has been much harder on people emotionally and socially the second time around.

Please do take advantage of the student support services available to you – browse your [academic support options](#), explore the [health and wellbeing services](#) provided, and if you are feeling anxious or distressed, talk with a Federation University counsellor free of charge, via phone or online. Get emergency contacts and learn how to [make an appointment here](#).

Audits of the health and safety measures in place to protect you

For the small number of staff and students, particularly for those at TAFE, we have put in place comprehensive Hazard Identification, Risk Assessment and Control procedures (HIRACs) to define what must happen to keep staff and students safe while on campus, including the use of PPE, physical distancing and other measures.

To make sure the HIRACs are being followed, we have trained staff auditing the activities happening on campus at the moment – so you may see them on campus in the next few weeks or have already had them in class with you.

We understand it is a very different environment for those students on campus at the moment and we thank you for complying with the restrictions in place to keep everyone safe and need you to continue to do so.

Government Coronavirus Isolation Payments

On a final note, we remind you of the government payments in place for casual workers in Victoria if they need to self-isolate while waiting for the result of a COVID-19 test (\$450) or if they test positive and must self-isolate for 14 days (\$1500). We understand that many of our students have casual work and may find these payments useful if they must self-isolate. You can find more information here or apply for a [Coronavirus Isolation Payments](#) if you will not receive income from your workplace during self-isolation.

Keep up the good work and we hope that we're soon hearing some good news for everyone in Victoria.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group



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