



Coronavirus Update

Wednesday 28 July 2021

Dear colleagues,

The Victorian Government has announced that the state is coming out of lockdown today, but a range of restrictions will still apply until Wednesday 11 August. Using QR codes and wearing face masks (indoors and outdoors) remain essential safety measures. Please make sure you read the detailed information below and refer to the attached table of restrictions.

The good news is that our Victorian campuses can reopen today, Wednesday 28 July. Brisbane Campus remains open.

As 25 per cent of office staff can return to campus from today, Deans and Directors will start discussions with our professional and general staff on who can return with priority given to staff who cannot effectively perform their job from home or whose work is essential for supporting students on campus. Teaching staff are not included in density limits and can resume teaching on campus, noting classes and lectures will remain online for the next two weeks, in line with government advice.

Higher education and HDR practical activities can return to campus from Monday 2 August.

TAFE returns to campus for all practical activities on Thursday 29 July. A small number of scheduled classes have been organised with individuals today. Non-practical learning will continue online for the next two weeks, in line with government advice.

Fed College and Ballarat Tech School resume on campus from Thursday 29 July.

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 can reopen on campus but with restrictions in place.

You can read the [Premier's statement online](#) and the table of restrictions is attached to this message. You can also find more information on current restrictions for Victoria at coronavirus.vic.gov.au or for Queensland at covid19.qld.gov.au.

Restriction changes in Victoria

From today, the following restrictions apply and the Premier has indicated these are in place for the next two weeks.

- **General** – The five reasons to leave your home are removed, there is no kilometre limit in place or 2-hour limit on exercise.
- **Education** – Adult education returns for practical education, but if you can study from home you should continue to do so. Primary and secondary schools reopen.
- **Workplaces** – 25 per cent return for office staff, but if you can work from home you should. Deans and Directors will discuss this with their staff.
- **Face masks** – You must still wear face masks indoors and outdoors. Modelling shows that masks played a huge role in slowing the spread of the virus in 2020.
- **Public gatherings outdoors** – Limit of 10 people attending.
- **Home visitors** – No visitors are allowed to your home, including student residences. This is the highest risk environment for transmitting the virus.
- **Hospitality, retail, fitness, libraries and community sport** – These all reopen but with specific density limits in place plus 1 person per 4sqm rule.

Further information for Federation staff

Taking time off to get vaccinated against COVID-19

The vaccination rollout is a key measure to preventing the spread of COVID-19. All staff are welcome to take time out of their working day to get vaccinated and we encourage you to do so once eligible.

To book a vaccination, follow the links at:

- In Victoria '[Who can get vaccinated against COVID-19](#)'
- In Queensland '[Protect yourself and others](#)'
- To check eligibility criteria for people aged between 16 and 40 go to [Federal Government COVID-19 vaccine](#) pages.

Federation COVID-19 hotline details

If you have any questions or are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19, please contact the COVID-19 hotline on (03) 5122 6300 (8:30am to 5:00pm).

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.

Supporting your health and wellbeing

Throughout the pandemic, Human Resources have developed a range of health and wellbeing supports to help with working from home and mental wellbeing, in addition to the free, confidential Employee Assistance Program.

We strongly encourage you to have a look to see if there are any resources that can help you get through the end of lockdown on our [Health and wellbeing web page](#).

Stay safe and we look forward to seeing you on campus.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group

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