



Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Wednesday 15 September 2021

Dear Student,

There are a number of new cases of COVID-19 in our Ballarat campus region, prompting the Victorian Government to introduce a seven-day lockdown from 11:59pm tonight across the City of Ballarat. You can read the [Premier's statement](#) here.

At the time of sending, Federation University and Federation TAFE are not exposure sites.

Our Ballarat campuses will close tonight until Thursday 23 September, aside from limited authorised activity for staff and students with an approved work or study permit. Those staff and students approved to be on campus will be contacted directly.

Below are key contacts and information if you or your family are personally impacted by the pandemic.

What to do if you have visited an exposure site, test positive to COVID-19 or are a close contact of someone who tests positive

Federation University and Federation TAFE are not exposure sites.

- Follow any directions from government or health authorities to get tested and isolate. You will not be penalised if you cannot work or study due to self-isolation requirements.

- Call the Federation COVID-19 hotline immediately to let us know. **During business hours call 0351226300 (from 8:30am to 5:00pm). After hours, call our emergency number 1800333732 if you test positive. If you test negative, leave a message on the hotline number.**
- Details of staff and students who call the hotline will be kept confidential and will only be shared with those directly involved in our COVID-19 response.

By having this information early, we can put in place cleaning and isolation requirements to ensure that we minimise the risk of COVID-19 exposure in our community.

Check public exposure sites daily

The list of COVID-19 public exposures sites in Victoria is expected to grow as contact tracers work with people who have tested positive.

We highly recommend that you check the full list of Victorian exposure sites each day at coronavirus.vic.gov.au/exposure-sites while this current COVID-19 outbreak is brought under control. Please note that exposure sites are listed by suburb name rather than region.

Next steps – what happens if there is a case on campus

Following the advice of government, Federation University has developed protocols for addressing confirmed on-campus cases of COVID-19, in our *COVIDSafe Plan*.

The university will immediately follow up with three vital actions:

- campus or building closure and a deep clean and disinfection of the affected areas, to a certified standard
- contacting staff, students and contractors to advise of the confirmed case (without sharing their personal details)
- contacting the Department of Health and Human Services to ensure that they are aware of the confirmed case and to commence contact tracing.

Student support services are available

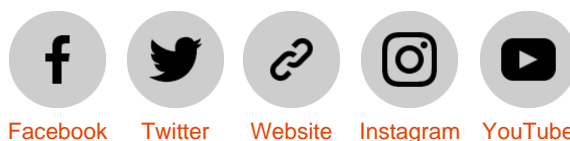
We know that many students are struggling with lockdown and we want to remind

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).

Stay safe and stay well.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group



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