

# Coronavirus Update

Thursday, 30 June 2022

Dear colleagues,

The Victorian Government has recently removed a number of the final COVID-19 restrictions in place.

Below is an overview of the changed restrictions and any changes to operations on campus. You can find more detailed advice in the [Staff FAQ](#) and on the [Victorian](#) and [Queensland](#) restriction information sites.

## Vaccination changes

In accordance with Pandemic Workplace Orders, staff who are not vaccinated are permitted to return to work on campus and there is no longer a requirement to provide proof of vaccination.

However, where a staff member is attending a third-party premises for any reason where the *Pandemic (Workplace) Order 2022 No. 9* has effect – residential aged care and disability care, healthcare, and custodial and emergency services – you will be required to comply with the requirements of that workplace.

## Close contact (household contact) isolation

You are considered a close/household contact if you have spent more than four hours in a household setting with someone who has recently tested positive for COVID-19.

### In Victoria:

While Federation has adopted the government requirements for close contacts of a positive COVID-19 case, we **strongly encourage any staff who can work from home to do so while their 7-day quarantine period applies.**

If a close contact does come to campus, the following government requirements must be followed before attending:

- wear a face mask in all indoor settings when outside of their home, including at all times indoors in the workplace
- undertake five Rapid Antigen Tests (RATs) during the self-quarantine period

with a negative result each time, with a minimum of 24 hours between each test

- A close contact must not attend certain settings – such as a hospitals or care facilities – unless they have approval from a relevant hospital or care facility executive or unless they are a worker of those facilities then special requirements apply. If attending a placement or work at these facilities, please confirm their workplace requirements before attending.

### **In Queensland:**

The close contact requirements are based on whether you have COVID-19 symptoms. There are testing requirements in place if you have any symptoms during the 7-day close contact period.

It is also recommended that you work or study from home if you can during the 7-day close contact period.

For full details of the close contacts requirements, please visit:

- <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/checklist-contacts> or
- <https://www.qld.gov.au/health/conditions/health-alerts/coronavirus-covid-19/stay-informed/exposed-to-covid/close-contacts>

### **If you test positive for COVID-19 or are a close contact**

Please let us know immediately if you are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 by calling our hotline on **(03) 5122 6300**. Leave a message if you call outside business hours.

If you have tested positive on a rapid antigen test, you must also report this via [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au) or via [covid19.qld.gov.au](https://www.covid19.qld.gov.au).

**Positive cases must still isolate for seven days from the day they took their test.** In Victoria though, they may now leave home to drive a household member directly to or from education or work without leaving their vehicle. They can also leave home to get medical care, a COVID-19 test, or in an emergency, including the risk of harm.

### **Face masks**

There is no longer a requirement to wear a face mask in most indoor settings, aside from healthcare, care facilities, rideshare/taxis and custodial settings.

Face masks are still required indoors when visiting an on-campus medical centre and for healthcare practicals.

### **Providing a healthy and safe campus environment**

It's important to remember that while life returns to normal, a number of COVID safety measures continue.

We still strongly encourage staff to use hand sanitiser, physically distance where possible, clean up themselves after using shared spaces, open windows where possible, and hold meetings online on MS Teams.

You can find more information via [People and Culture Toolkits](#).

These simple measures can help contribute to all of us staying safe and protect those in the community who may be more vulnerable to COVID-19.

Stay safe and stay well,

**On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group**

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