

Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Monday 1 June 2020

Dear Student,

I'm pleased to be able share with you the first steps on our path forward to a new beginning in a post-lockdown world.

Many of you are already involved in smaller classes on campus to make sure you can meet the requirements of your trade or apprenticeship.

It has been a different scenario though for some of you, and for almost all of our Federation students, who have been studying online for more than two months now.

University leadership and teaching staff, including our TAFE leadership, have started the work to identify those groups within our university community who must return to on campus and face-to-face teaching, which I can share with you today.

First steps back to campus – 1 June to 17 July

We plan to start bringing a very small number of staff and students onto campus from 1 June to 17 July, for our first block on our new path.

For those involved in on-campus activities, stringent health and safety measures are in place as part of our *COVIDSafe Plan*. This plan has been developed in accordance with Commonwealth Government requirements, to make sure you are protected.

University leadership and teaching staff have been using the *COVIDSafe Plan* to identify those students with the highest need to begin some of their activities on campus, and the staff needed to support these activities. Each plan then undergoes formal review and risk assessment before any decisions are made about the beginning of on-campus activities.

The following student groups have been prioritised for a progressive transition to conduct some 'defined activities' on campus:

- students who need to complete pracs and labs for placements
- research students who need to finish off projects

 some postgraduate students needing to complete a short laboratory project to complete their degrees.

This is the start of some on-campus activities for those students that have moved to online delivery. The staff and students who are invited to come onto campus to engage in these activities are asked to return home after they've finished, to minimise any COVID-19 risks.

Decision making

University leadership will meet at the start of each week to assess any new groups who should begin to resume activities on campus.

We will move through the transition methodically and in short blocks of time, to ensure we can adapt to government health and safety requirements.

Moving cautiously will allow us to pause and adapt along the way to minimise any potential risk or exposure to COVID-19.

As we progress, we will make sure that you are informed about our decisions by sending out weekly updates. Please remember you can also find information via our Coronavirus response page.

Best regards,

Professor Helen Bartlett Vice-Chancellor and President Federation University Australia













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