



Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Wednesday 29 September 2021

Dear Student,

At 7 pm last night, the Victorian Government announced a snap 7-day lockdown for the Latrobe Valley due to a new COVID-19 outbreak in the area.

The lockdown means that the City of Latrobe is under metropolitan Melbourne lockdown restrictions (excluding curfew) until 11.59 pm Monday 4 October.

For Federation University, our operations are as follows:

- **Berwick and Gippsland campuses** are closed in line with lockdown restrictions, aside from limited authorised activity for students with approved work or study permits (you will be contacted directly if required on campus).
- **Brisbane Campus** remains open and is unaffected by the Victorian restrictions. However, the Queensland Government has reintroduced the requirement in Brisbane and Moreton Bay (and residents of those areas) to wear face masks indoors (aside from working alone in your office or a meeting room) and outdoors when you cannot maintain a 1.5-metre distance from others. Find information on [face mask rules here](#).
- **Ballarat and Wimmera campuses** are open for approved student activity only. This means there is limited on-campus activity and learning will remain remote except for practicals and laboratory classes for certain groups of students in accordance with the [Victorian Government COVIDSafe Settings](#). Campus facilities and services are open but with density limits in place.

You can find more detailed information on restrictions at www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au and www.covid19.qld.gov.au.

Seeking an authorised work or higher education permit

To attend the Berwick and Gippsland campuses you will now need a permit. To apply, find the application form and information on limited authorised worker categories on the [authorised provider and authorised worker permit](#) webpage. Students should then email their application to the appropriate contact below, and cannot attend campus until the permit is approved.

- Higher education student permits – email WIL@federation.edu.au
- HDR student permits – email dean.gradstudies@federation.edu.au

Permit application process for students travelling from or to Melbourne metropolitan areas or the Latrobe City Local Government Area for authorised work or study

Students who are required to attend essential classes or have a placement are required to have an authorised placement work permit.

Action required: To be considered for a permit, please complete the [permit form \(pdf, 217kb\)](#).

Important information about completing your form:

- You must provide us with your scheduled placement or class hours in Table 2 of the form.
- If you are a nursing student and have a roster, you MUST also submit your roster with the form.
- We recognise that you are a student, however for this form you are to complete the 'Employee' sections and hours of work.
- If your hours/roster changes, you will be required to complete a new form with the revised hours.

Once you have fully completed the form, including the 'hours of attendance' in Table 2, location and signature, submit to the Work Integrated Learning (WIL) team via email: wil@federation.edu.au.

The WIL team will then check the details, sign the form and email it to you. Please

allow at least one business day for your permit to be processed.

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).

What to do if you have COVID-19 or have visited an exposure site

Please let us know immediately by calling the Federation COVID-19 hotline if you are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19 or have visited an exposure site.

- During business hours, call (03) 5122 6300 (from 8.30 am to 5 pm).
- After hours, call our emergency number 1800 333 732 if you test positive. If you test negative, leave a message on the hotline number.

Details of students who call the hotline will be kept confidential and will only be shared with those directly involved in our COVID-19 response.

Check public exposure sites daily

The list of COVID-19 public exposures sites is growing as contact tracers work with people who have tested positive. We highly recommend that you check the list of Victorian exposure sites each day at coronavirus.vic.gov.au/exposure-sites. Please note that exposure sites are listed by suburb name rather than region.

COVID-19 vaccinations

We strongly encourage you to get the COVID-19 vaccination as the best way to protect yourself, your loved ones and your communities from the virus. All higher education and TAFE students are now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. You

can book a vaccination through a government-run clinic or via your GP or pharmacist. For vaccination information in your state, go to:

- Victoria: [Book your vaccine appointment](#)
- Queensland: [Protect yourself and others](#).

Stay safe and stay well.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group



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