



## Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Wednesday 2 June 2021

Dear Student,

The Victorian Government today announced that lockdown restrictions will continue in Melbourne until 11.59 pm Thursday 10 June.

Some restrictions are set to ease in regional Victoria, with the government to officially confirm this change tomorrow, Thursday 3 June.

The new restrictions are detailed below, along with how these restrictions impact our study arrangement.

- **Berwick Campus** will remain closed until Friday 11 June – current advice still applies in relation to remote learning.
- **Ballarat, Gippsland and Wimmera campuses** will reopen but with remote learning to continue for higher education and HDR students.
- **TAFE** will reopen from Monday 7 June for practical activities, but non-practical activities will continue remotely.
- **Fed College** will reopen from Monday 7 June.
- **Brisbane Campus** students and those studying at any **non-Victorian locations** are not impacted by the Victorian restrictions. This update is provided to simply inform them of these changes.

- Information on **placements** and **facilities on campus** is provided below.

## Support for students

We again remind you of the [student support services](#) available to you, including learning and academic support. We understand that after the past year this may trigger strong emotions for some of you and if you are feeling anxious or distressed, talk with a Federation University counsellor free of charge, via phone or online. Get emergency contacts and learn how to make an appointment [here](#).

[Academic support services](#), critical at this point in the semester, continue to be available online.

If you experience mental health challenges outside of business hours, the University has introduced a special crisis line operating 4.30 pm – 9.00 am AEST on weekdays, and with 24-hour availability on weekends and public holidays. To access this service within Australia, please call 1300 758 109. If you are outside Australia, SMS +61 480 089 177 and request a callback.

## Restrictions in place from 11.59 pm Thursday 3 June to 11.59 pm Thursday 10 June

The “[circuit-breaker restrictions](#)” in metropolitan areas of Melbourne continue for another week until 11.59 pm Thursday 10 June with the following two changes:

- Ten-kilometre limit for shopping and exercise – instead of five-kilometres
- VCAL and VCE students in years 11 and 12 can return for face-to-face learning.

**Restrictions in regional areas of Victoria** are as follows:

- Face masks required in all indoor settings but not outdoors (unless you cannot maintain 1.5m distance from others)
- You can leave your home for any reason and no limit on distance you can travel

- You can only travel to Melbourne for permitted reasons and must obey Melbourne restrictions when there
- 10 people allowed at outdoor public gatherings
- No visitors to your home
- Schools return to face-to-face learning for all year levels
- Closed – indoor health and fitness centres, community sport for adults and libraries
- Open – All retail and hospitality and entertainment venues can reopen with specific caps in place on capacity (see the [table of restrictions \(pdf, 120kb\)](#) for details).

This is a lot of information to take in but is similar to the steady easing of restrictions that we saw at the end of the last year.

You can view the [table of restrictions \(pdf, 120kb\)](#), which provide specific guidance on activities, and you can also find this information via the [Acting Premier's statement online](#) or [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au).

## **Placements**

- The University will work with students and placement providers to make alternative arrangements where necessary.
- Students in health and early childhood disciplines will be able to attend placements as these are deemed essential services.

## **Facilities open and closed**

- Childcare delivered at our Federation's Children's Centres, and FedLiving residences remain open.
- Food outlets will be able to reopen on campus, in line with regional hospitality restrictions, from Monday 7 June.
- Fitness centres, community sport for adults and swimming pools will remain closed until Friday 11 June.

## **Getting a COVID-19 vaccination**

- Vaccination eligibility has been extended to anyone 40 years or older in Victoria, you can [find booking details here](#).

## Federation COVID-19 hotline details

You must let us know if you are confirmed or suspected of having COVID-19, so we can put in place a swift response including concentrated cleaning and to assist in contact tracing if a case is confirmed.

- During business hours: COVID-19 hotline (03) 5122 6300 (8.30 am to 5.00 pm).
- Outside business hours: If you are confirmed as having COVID-19 outside these hours, please call the emergency phone number 1800 333 732. To report a suspected case, or a negative result, please call the COVID-19 hotline the following day during business hours.

## Keeping up to date with restrictions

Restrictions change quickly as we've seen over the past year. Keep up-to-date via:

- Daily check of the following government websites for changes and alerts at [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au) or [www.covid19.qld.gov.au](http://www.covid19.qld.gov.au)
- Download the ***VicEmergency app*** for the link on the home screen to Pandemic Advice for Victoria
- You can also follow health authorities on social media for regular updates including the [Victorian Department of Health and Human Services](#) and [Queensland Health](#)
- Read, listen and watch the news. Most are broadcasting government updates as they happen.

The safety and wellbeing of our community are our priority and we appreciate your support.

Stay safe.

On behalf of the COVID-19 Transition Control Group

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