



Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Friday 4 June 2021

Dear Student,

The Victorian Government has confirmed that the eased lockdown restrictions in regional Victoria, flagged on Wednesday, will come into effect today until 11.59 pm Thursday 10 June. Some restrictions in the Melbourne metropolitan areas have also been eased.

The new restrictions impact our campuses and working arrangements as follows:

- **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.
- **Federation 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 Victorian restrictions. This update is provided to simply inform them of these changes.
- Information on **placements** and **facilities on campus** is provided below.

Find out more about the restrictions in place from 11.59 pm Thursday 3 June to 11.59 pm Thursday 10 June at www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au. For general restrictions advice in Brisbane go to www.covid19.qld.gov.au. You can also follow health authorities on social media for regular updates including the [Victorian Department of Health and Human Services](#) and [Queensland Health](#).

Advice if you are returning to a regional campus

The government has advised that regional Victorians should continue to work and study from home if they can for the next week, but some students, such as students involved in practical TAFE work, will be returning to campus. The following advice applies:

- **If you are sick, you must stay at home.** If you have COVID-19 symptoms even if very mild, you should get tested and isolate at home until you return a negative result.
- **Scan a QR code on arrival and in any communal areas.** We are asking all students to scan a QR code as you enter the campus and in all shared public areas. This is vital for contact tracing should an outbreak occur. All of our QR codes come from the [Service Victoria app](#) and [Check In Qld app](#).
- **Face masks must be worn indoors and remember 1.5 metre distance between yourself and others.** While you don't need to wear a face mask outdoors at our regional campuses, you must wear it indoors or anytime you can't maintain 1.5m physical distancing.
- **Help with good hygiene and cleaning.** Please use hand sanitiser. If you use any classrooms, study areas or meeting rooms, please use the sanitising wipes when you're finished. Facilities staff will conduct touch point and general cleaning throughout the day.

Please note, **food outlets** at regional campuses will be open from Monday 7 June, but with a limited service, in line with government restrictions.

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.

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.

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 appropriate student supports, 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.

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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