



Coronavirus response - Federation University Australia

Wednesday 9 June 2021

Dear Student,

We've had some really good news from the Victorian Government today, for everyone waiting to hear if restrictions will be eased further.

Due to the low case numbers and all positive COVID cases recorded over the past fortnight being linked, restrictions will be eased further in Melbourne metropolitan areas and regional Victoria on Friday 11 June.

Details of the restriction changes are below but what this means for students at Federation University and Federation TAFE is that:

- **Berwick Campus** will reopen on Friday 11 June. Remote learning continues and if you can study from home, you should study from home. The Department of Education and Training has also confirmed that the following university activities permitted on campus:
 - Taking an exam or assessment that cannot be performed online
 - Service delivery for vulnerable students
 - Students can travel between Melbourne and regional areas to sit an exam or assessment with their peers, but Melbourne restrictions follow (such as not visiting other people's homes).
- **Ballarat, Gippsland and Wimmera campuses** remain open but if you can study from home, you should continue to do so.

- **Federation TAFE** remains open, but non-practical activities will continue remotely.
- **Fed College** remains open.
- **Brisbane Campus** remains open and is unaffected by Victorian restrictions.
- **Open:** Children's Centres, FedLiving residences.
- **Open with restrictions on numbers:** Libraries, food outlets and retail on campus, and health and fitness centres and pools in regional Victoria.

New restriction settings in Victoria

The following restrictions will be in place from 11.59 pm Thursday 10 June to 11.59 pm Thursday 17 June, with restrictions expected to ease further at the end of next week.

Metro Melbourne

- The five reasons to leave your home no longer apply. However, a 25km limit on travel remains (instead of previous 10km limit) with exemptions only on attending permitted work and study, or for care giving or accessing the closest vaccination centre to your home.
- No visitors at home but 10 people are permitted for outdoor gatherings.
- Masks will no longer be required outdoors but must be worn indoors.
- The following venues can reopen subject to specific density limits (see [table of restrictions, pdf 74.15kb](#)): restaurants and cafés reopen for seated service; libraries and community facilities; swimming pools and entertainment venues. Community sport can occur, but only for training.

Regional Victoria

- Visitors to be allowed at home but with a limit of two adults per day plus their dependants, and outdoor gatherings increased to 20 people.

- No limit on travel within regional Victoria. You can travel to Melbourne but you must follow the Melbourne restrictions, such as no visitors to anyone's home.
- Indoor sport, including gyms and pools, will also be able to reopen with careful limits on the number of people permitted at any point in time. Restaurant and café capacity increases for seated service. Community sport back for all ages.

You can read the [statement from the Acting Premier](#) online. Find general advice about restrictions, public exposures sites, COVID-19 testing and vaccinations at www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au while Brisbane students can 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](#).

Keeping COVID safe if you attend campus

If you attend one of our Victorian campuses over the next week, you must follow the rules below.

- **You must scan a QR code on arrival and in any communal areas.** This is vital for contact tracing should an outbreak occur so we can contact you as soon as possible. All of our QR codes come from the [Service Victoria app](#) and [Check In Qld app](#).
- **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.
- **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.

Support for students

We remain committed to providing the best care for our students. Our [health services](#) on campus are open for appointments, and our [Student HQ](#) is scheduled to reopen from Tuesday 15 June 2021.

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

We remind you of the [student support services](#) available to you. 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](#).

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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