
CIRCULAR: GEN/154/NAT/154/21
DATE: 20 July 2021
SUBJECT: COVIDSafe Update – Victorian Restrictions
ATTENTION: Chief Executive Officer

Victoria's lockdown has been extended for a week and will apply *state wide* until **11.59pm next Tuesday 27 July**.

The Premier announced that *minor changes* will be made to the attached list of Authorised Providers and Authorised Workers, and that as a result the following will be permitted to recommence from Wednesday 21 July:

- Services that operate solely outdoors where physical distancing can be maintained at all times
- Pet grooming mobile services
- Pamphlet delivery services.

Students with a disability will be allowed to attend on-site learning in circumstances where they cannot learn from home due to vulnerability or family stress.

Otherwise, the restrictions that were announced on 16 July will continue to apply, as set out below.

The current restrictions are as follows:

- There are **5** permitted reasons to leave home:
 - Shopping for necessary goods and services within 5km of home, unless nearest shops are further– one household member once per day.
 - Exercising for 2 hours per day outside of the home (with household members, intimate partner or one other person who is not from a person's household or their intimate partner).
 - Caregiving and compassionate and medical reasons, including having a COVID-19 test.
 - Authorised work or permitted education – except for essential/permitted workers, everyone must work from home.
 - To get vaccinated.

People may also leave home in an emergency or if they are at risk of family violence.

Reasons to travel further than 5km from home are:

- For permitted work.
- To access necessary goods and services that cannot be accessed within 5km from home.
- Intimate partner visits.

- 'Single bubble' visits.
- Care and compassionate reasons.
- Interstate work where that is permitted by the other state.

A full list of **Authorised Providers** and **Authorised Workers** is *attached*.

Masks are compulsory to be worn indoors and outdoors, except for in the home or when visiting an intimate partner's home. If a person is working alone, they are not required to wear a mask unless another person enters the indoor or outdoor space.

Private and public gatherings are not allowed. Professional sport can continue without crowds.

Hospitality will be closed except for take-away and delivery.

Only **essential retail** may open, which includes supermarkets, pharmacies, butchers, bottle shops, petrol stations, post offices, banks, food stores, newsagents, liquor stores, and pet stores. General retail is closed (click and collect available). Hairdressers, beauty, personal care, indoor and outdoor pools, gyms, libraries, entertainment venues, creative studios, play centres, community centres are closed.

Hotel and accommodation providers can stay open to support guests already staying onsite. No new bookings can be made, unless for a permitted reason – for example someone who requires accommodation as an authorised worker.

Residential aged care visits are not permitted except in limited circumstances where the resident has a life-threatening condition or for end-of-life purposes.

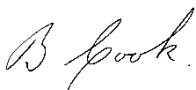
Hospital visits are restricted to circumstances of giving birth, end of life, accompanying a child.

Schools are closed except for vulnerable students or whose parents/carers are permitted workers. Childcare, kindergartens and early childcare centres will remain open. Universities and TAFEs are closed.

Real estate inspections and auctions may only be conducted online.

Places of worship are closed (other than for broadcasting services); there will be no religious gatherings; **funerals** are limited to 10 people (indoor or outdoor); and there will be **no weddings** except for end of life or deportation reasons, limited to 5 attendees.

If you have any questions or if you require further information, please contact the SIAG National Advisory Service on 03 9644 1400 or 1300 (SIAG HR) / 1300 742 447.



Brian Cook
Managing Director

Disclaimer:

By agreeing to use this summary of information, the user agrees that siag does not give any guarantee, undertaking or warranty whatsoever in relation to the summary, including in relation to the accuracy, completeness or currency of the summary; and to indemnify and hold harmless siag from and against any loss or liability suffered by a user or a third party, arising out of the provision of the information, howsoever caused, including due to negligence of siag.

COVIDSafe Settings for Victoria from 11.59pm 15 July 2021 (www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au)

Authorised providers

The following businesses can open under circuit breaker restrictions. If their employees are unable to work from home they can leave home to attend work.

- a supermarket, grocery store, bakery, butcher, fruit and vegetable store or fishmonger; or
- an indoor or outdoor market, but only to obtain groceries or fresh food; or
- a restaurant, café, pub, bar or hotel, whether licensed or unlicensed, but only to the extent that:
 - it provides takeaway meals or drinks or a meal delivery service; or
 - it provides food, drink, accommodation or other essential services to those seeking shelter (for example, for reasons of homelessness or family violence); or
- a bottle shop; or
- a financial institution; or
- consular and diplomatic services; or
- court, tribunal or commission services;
- a post office; or
- a news agent; or
- a pharmacy; or
- a petrol station (including a petrol station that sells groceries); or
- vehicle and mechanical repair services; or
- construction; or
- a pet store; or
- a veterinary clinic, and related services (on-farm visits and animal care services) where there is a genuine animal welfare issue, or for the purposes of artificial insemination; or
- services connected with animal health, husbandry or welfare, including the RSPCA; or
- zoos and nature reserves for the purposes of treating or caring for animals, performing an animal rescue function or maintaining the facility/reserve and broadcast; or
- an abattoir, meat, seafood or poultry processing plant; or
- animal saleyards, knackeries and animal transportation services (including livestock and pets); or
- urgent services necessary for the health and safety of any person, animal or premises; or
- immunisation or vaccination services; or
- essential child protection activities; or
- a childcare, early learning centre, kindergarten, preschool or family day care provider; or
- a primary or secondary school; or
- a boarding school; or
- a 'click and collect' service; or
- a locksmith; or

- a community facility (for click and collect only); or
- carpark for the purposes of supporting an Authorised Provider or Authorised Worker; or
- labour hire when servicing an Authorised Provider; or
- laundry and dry cleaners; or
- commercial cleaners; or
- National Performing Arts Company Dancing studios for the exclusive use of Company Dancers already training for a production.
- the following services which must operate solely outdoors where physical distancing can be maintained at all times, for businesses with an ABN:
 - landscaping and gardening services (with up to five people)
 - pet grooming mobile services undertaken in a contactless manner
 - delivery of pamphlets and advertising material to outdoor mailboxes (with up to five people)
 - outdoor maintenance, repairs, cleaning and other building work (including in relation to pools), with up to five people plus a supervisor if conducted at occupied premises
 - home renovations and installations (with up to five people a plus supervisor if conducted at occupied premises)
 - home solar panel installations (with up to five people a plus supervisor if conducted at occupied premises and in those circumstances only for outdoor work or in roof cavities with external access).

Authorised workers

Any person who performs work that is essential for the continued operation of:

- an Authorised Provider; or
- authorised health services; or
- funerary or mortuary services or related activities; or
- marriage celebrant only if one or both of the two persons being married are at the end of life, or will be deported from Australia unless the marriage takes place; or
- elective surgery and post-operative care in health services in regional Victoria; or
- emergency services, including both volunteers and paid workers in:
 - the State Emergency Services; and
 - firefighting services; and
 - paramedical services; and
 - ambulance and paramedics services; and
 - air ambulance and medical retrieval services (including Royal Flying Doctor Service); and
 - Victoria Police employees, Protective Services Officers and police custody officers; and
 - military and defence services deployed for activities in Victoria; or
- state security or national security; or
- essential infrastructure and essential services that are required to maintain or protect human health, safety and wellbeing (whether provided by a public or private undertaking), and including construction, maintenance and repair of such infrastructure; or
- critical repairs to any premises where required for emergency or safety; or

- faith leaders broadcasting services and ceremonies at places of worship; or
- retail goods workers supporting the operation of click and collect or click and deliver orders; or
- health practitioners, including medical, nursing, midwifery and allied health students on placement, when undertaking critical training and examinations; or
- allied health professionals working in private or public community services, whether clinic-based or home-based, providing essential clinical care where telehealth services are not clinically appropriate;
 - *Example: orthotists and prosthetists providing services such as fitting a brace post-surgery.*
- maternal and child health workers providing essential care to newborns or at-risk babies and children; or
- a person who is critical to, and involved in, the State's COVID-19 response (including in hotel quarantine and vaccination services); or
- immunisation and vaccination providers including pharmacy immunisers and Aboriginal Healthcare Workers
- roadside assistance services; or
- local government specific services such as:
 - essential environmental health functions that protect the health and wellbeing of the community, and high-risk local law enforcement; or
- a member of Parliament or anyone required to ensure the functioning of the Victorian or Commonwealth of Australia Parliaments; or
- domestic and commercial waste and resource recovery services (including collection, treatment and disposal services and transfer stations), including:
 - electricity services; and
 - operation of energy systems; and
 - gas services; and
 - water supply, sewerage and drainage services; and
 - liquid fuels and refinery services; or
- specialised clinical waste workers required for the operation of primary clinical waste incinerators in Victoria; or
- Commonwealth agency services, including Australian Border Force and Commonwealth law enforcement and intelligence agency services; or
- services related to the administration of justice, including the operation of courts in regional Victoria, and including prison transfers; or
- essential legal services that are not able to be provided electronically, including urgent legal matters such as executing a will in-person; or
- journalist and media services; or
- feature film, television and documentary (excluding television commercials, student and corporate productions) that is already in physical production and operating as a closed set and post-production relating to it; or
- specialist services at telecommunications stores to support telecommunications as a critical service during the COVID-19 pandemic; or
- professional or high-performance sportsperson, workers that support the safe running of that person's professional sport, and public broadcast personnel necessary for broadcasting the professional sport; or
- thoroughbred, harness and greyhound racing, with necessary participants only; or

- a factory or facility that is not able to be shut down without causing damage or loss to plant and equipment, but only those operations that are necessary in order to prevent that damage or loss; or
- mining services including coal mining, oil and gas extraction, metal ore mining, non-metallic mineral mining and quarrying petroleum production; or
- building and construction services; or
- administrative services provided by an employer to enable its employees to work from home; or
 - *Example: Payroll and IT services.*
- organisations that provide urgent services necessary for the health and safety of any person, animal or premises; or
 - *Example: the performance of emergency plumbing services, Centrelink services and foodbanks.*
- public transport, including taxis, rideshare services, and other public passenger services; or
- air transport (including the operation of airports); or
- port operations; or
- freight services (including postal and courier services); or
- a transport, freight or logistics driver; or
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator compliance activities; or
- a blood bank or other bank services for the collection, storage and provision of donated biological material; or
- care services for people with particular needs because of homelessness, family violence, age, infirmity, disability, illness or a chronic health condition or other essential support services;
 - *Example: Family violence and sexual assault services, Aboriginal Community Controlled Organisations, Agencies carrying out essential relief activities, including Neighbourhood Houses.*
- truck stops and roadhouses, but not the provision of seated dining or shower facilities to persons who are not transport, freight or logistics drivers; or
- production and distribution of;
 - disability and health equipment, mobility devices, including products for health patients; or
 - food and groceries for sale by a supermarket, butcher, fruit and vegetable store, market or fishmonger (including for sale by operators of such premises at an indoor or outdoor market); or
 - liquor for sale at a bottle shop; or
 - medical and pharmaceutical products; or
 - animal food and care products; or
- commercial operations that supply goods or service necessary:
- for the implementation of measures to limit the spread of COVID-19; or
- to support any business activity that may be carried out in accordance with these directions; or
- to support the export of goods and services from Victoria; or *Example: manufacturing of personal protective equipment or hand sanitiser.*
- the maintenance of other essential research activities for:
 - management and care of critical living resources, and the equipment and materials they depend upon (for example, feeding, husbandry, hydrating,

- routine care and checks of animals, plants, microbes and cell lines in controlled environment); or
 - the storage and management of existing samples and data research infrastructure that are temperature and environmentally sensitive (for example, biobank); or
 - long-term experiments or studies that otherwise would be prohibitive to restart (for example, commenced clinical trials); or
 - research addressing the impact of COVID-19 and research in support of the hospital and broader health system; or
- the conduct of essential adult and higher education services pertaining to the following occupations and activities for:
 - training and assessment for infection control, high-risk work licenses and high-risk work credentials and construction induction (white card), that ensure workplace and public safety in permitted work premises or for permitted workers; or
 - study for final year pre-service early childhood and school teachers (including placements); or
 - final-year higher education students (that is, in TEQSA-regulated courses), who do not have alternative options to complete their study by end of year; or
 - for the purposes of undertaking a prescribed examination or assessment, where not practicable to provide remotely, or
 - to support service delivery on site for vulnerable students in higher education and training, where not practicable to provide remotely; or
 - first aid training where required for COVID response; or
 - study for health care workers (including clinical placements); or
 - apprentices training with an Authorised Provider or Authorised Worker; or
 - clinical health and biomedical science (if required to be on site for the maintenance of essential research activities); or
 - aged and disability care (including clinical placements); or
 - mandatory assessments for VCE and VCAL students; or
 - police Academy; or
 - defence and national security agencies;
 - primary industries only to the extent necessary to ensure animal rescue, adequate supply of food to, and care of, animals and maintenance of crops; or
 - a hotel, motel or other accommodation facility to the extent that they provide accommodation services, including on a temporary basis for work purposes; or
 - services related to property settlement or commencement/end-of-lease (including removalists); or
 - forestry activity for the purposes of or relating to:
 - production of firewood for heating of premises; or
 - production of pallets; or
 - production of building supplies for construction; or
 - production of other goods required for other permitted activities (for example, paper, packaging, caskets and coffins); or
 - all manufacturing; or
 - ancillary and support businesses are able to open on-site where necessary for the operations of an Authorised Provider, or for Closed Work Premises where

there are safety or environmental obligations. The business cannot operate on-site for any other purpose:

- *Examples: production, supply, manufacture, repair, maintenance, cleaning, security, wholesale, distribution, transportation or sale of equipment, goods or services essential to the operation of the Authorised Provider.*
- union/peak body/employer organisation officials attending a worksite as permitted by law or for Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) advice
- a person who is:
 - critical to, and involved in, the State's COVID-19 response (including in hotel quarantine); or
 - a fly in fly out worker or a drive in drive out worker who is required for industry or business continuity and maintenance of a competitive operation where the service is time-critical, who is responsible for critical maintenance or repair of infrastructure critical to a region of, or to, Victoria; or
 - maritime crew; or
 - a necessary individual for the purposes of the major event where that event has an exemption from CHO allowing it to proceed, including any workers and public broadcast personnel that support the safe running of the major event.
- Farm, animal and bloodstock leasing activities, including:
 - farming activities and other operations relating to agriculture, horticulture, viticulture, irrigation, permaculture, apiculture, grains, fibre production, dairy, flower industry, commercial fishing, aquaculture and livestock; or
 - intensive agricultural production including; greenhouses and animal production; or
 - agricultural, veterinary chemicals and vaccine production, transportation and distribution (including the Pig Services Centre); or
 - laboratory and diagnostic services; or
 - animal feed production, transportation, packaging, sale, and feeding (including livestock and pets); or
 - animal pounds and shelters (no public access).
- a business or undertaking providing essential support services to permitted agriculture, forestry and fishing activities, such as food safety and verification, inspection or associated laboratory services and biosecurity functions.