
CIRCULAR: GEN/158/NAT/158/21
DATE: 16 August 2021
SUBJECT: COVIDSafe Update – Victorian Restrictions
ATTENTION: Chief Executive Officer

Premier Dan Andrews has today announced an extension to Metropolitan Melbourne’s current lockdown and a tightening of the current restrictions as follows:

- Metropolitan Melbourne’s current lockdown has been extended for a further 14 days, through to 2 September 2021;
- A curfew will be reinstated in Melbourne from 9 pm to 5 am, as of 11.59 pm tonight, 16 August 2021;
- Essential worker permits are to be reinstated in Melbourne for those who cannot work from home, consistent with the arrangements that were in place last year. This is required from 11.59 pm, Tuesday 17 August 2021. Fines will apply for workers who do not carry their permit. Permits will be available on the coronavirus website before the directions come into effect.

The 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 within 5 km radius of home (with one other person from your household and/or dependants if they cannot be left at home). Outdoor exercise areas and equipment, including playgrounds, baseball courts, skateparks will be closed.
- Caregiving and compassionate and medical reasons, including having a COVID-19 test.
- Authorised work or permitted education – except for essential/permitted workers (who will require an essential worker permit), 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 (see below)
- 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.

Mask wearing is 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. Masks may not be taken off outside to consume alcohol.

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.

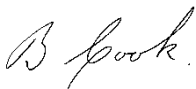
Schools are closed except for vulnerable students or whose parents/carers are permitted workers. Childcare, kindergartens and early childcare centres will remain open. Universities and TAFEs are closed.

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.

A copy of the updated restrictions is **attached**.

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

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