

# COVID-19 Restriction Updates

## Construction

16 August 2021

All Victorian Businesses are required to have a COVIDSafe Plan. Need help? Visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au) or call the Business Hotline 13 22 15  
Do you need support? For more information on testing and support payments, visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au) or call 1800 675 398

# Agenda

1. COVID-19 restriction updates
2. Restrictions by industry sector
3. QR Codes
4. Getting tested
5. Vaccinations
6. More information

# The Victorian Government has announced a further tightening of restrictions for metro Melbourne from 11:59pm tonight

## From 11.59pm 16 August in metropolitan Melbourne:

- A curfew will be imposed from 9pm to 5am.
- Additional restrictions will also apply to the construction industry, operating as it did last year, with staffing reductions in place except for critical infrastructure and emergency repairs. At large scale construction sites, staffing must reduce to 25 per cent or five workers on site, whichever is higher.
- People will not be able to remove their masks to drink alcoholic beverages in public.
- Playgrounds, basketball hoops, skate parks and outdoor exercise equipment will now be closed.
- Exercise will be limited to just you and one other person, plus dependants if they can't be left at home.

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**From 11:59pm on Tuesday 17 August:**

**Authorised workers** will be required to carry permits when working, and when travelling for work.

The permits need to be certified by an employer.

**Higher education students** who are on the Authorised Provider list will be required to carry permits when working, and when travelling for work.

**[The permits will be available soon on the coronavirus website.](#)**

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## Construction industry

- Permit required
- Back to solo work outside, except for when it is unsafe (from the current 5 plus a supervisor) – APAW

## Construction WAIOD (Workplace Additional Industries Obligations) changes as per 14 September 2020 restrictions:

- **All sites** - limit worker movement across sites and apply density quotient of one person per four square metres
- **Large scale construction** - density limits, limit movement of workers across sites (no more than 3 in a week), staffing reductions (25% or 5 workers onsite whichever was higher) – except for critical infrastructure and repairs
- **Small scale construction** – limit of 5 workers on site
- **Early-stage residential land development sites** - 10 workers per hectare onsite at any one time.

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**Critical and essential infrastructure and critical repair works do not need to comply with onsite staffing caps.**

What is considered to be construction of critical and essential infrastructure?

Construction of critical and essential infrastructure is not subject to business operating reductions. It means:

- construction or maintenance (including civil works, building or construction activities) of critical and essential infrastructure where the Victorian Government has deemed, and the Chief Health Officer has endorsed, on a case by case basis, that it is urgently required for the purposes of sustaining human health, safety and wellbeing, regardless of whether those activities are privately or publicly funded
- activities prescribed by government from time to time as “State Critical Infrastructure Projects”
- construction and maintenance for the purposes of national security and defence.

**The expectation is that very few activities will meet the above tests.**

**Project proponents can contact [COVID-19Team@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVID-19Team@ecodev.vic.gov.au) to apply for a determination by the Chief Health Officer.**

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	Metropolitan Melbourne settings
Social gatherings, visitors and leaving home	<p><b>Curfew:</b> From 9pm to 5am, a person is not permitted to leave their home except for limited reasons</p> <p><b>Stay at home unless:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>shopping for necessary goods and services (one person per household, once per day, a support person can accompany if required)</li> <li>caregiving or compassionate reasons</li> <li>authorised work or permitted education, or work interstate</li> <li>exercise (up to two hours, with one other person plus dependants if they cannot be left unattended. The other person can be from another household)</li> <li>receive a COVID-19 vaccination</li> <li>other specified reasons (specific exemptions apply)</li> </ul> <p><b>Intra-state travel:</b> Travel limit of 5km from place of primary residence, except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>to return home</li> <li>to access necessary goods and services where those goods and services cannot be accessed closer than 5kms from home.</li> <li>to visit an intimate partner</li> <li>to visit a person in your "single bubble"</li> <li>allowed to travel for authorised work and permitted education</li> <li>work at an interstate location (where permitted by another state)</li> <li>care and compassionate reasons (specific exemptions apply)</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Private gatherings:</b> Not permitted, intimate partner visits / single person bubble permitted</p>
	<p><b>Public gatherings:</b> Not permitted</p>
	<p><b>Face coverings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>must be carried at all times</li> <li>must be worn indoors and outdoors except if at home, or when visiting an intimate partner's place of residence or if an exception applies</li> <li>exception for food and drink limited so that face coverings can only be removed to eat and to drink non-alcoholic beverages</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Work:</b> If you can work from home, you must work from home</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Authorised workplaces and workers are permitted to attend onsite work</li> <li>Authorised workers are permitted to travel to and from work even when curfew is in place</li> <li>A permit is required when leaving the home for authorised work or permitted higher education</li> </ul>
Education and childcare	<p><b>Early learning centres, childcare, family day care:</b> Open</p>
	<p><b>Schools:</b> Remote learning for most students but open to vulnerable children, and the children of authorised workers.</p>
	<p><b>Higher education and training:</b> Closed, remote learning only unless permitted study</p>

	Metropolitan Melbourne settings
<b>Ceremonies and Religious Gatherings</b>	<b>Religious gatherings and ceremonies:</b> No in-person gatherings permitted. Broadcast permitted with maximum five people, <b>must be the same five people each time.</b>
<b>Funerals</b>	<b>Funerals (indoor and outdoor):</b> Permitted with no more than 10 people (and those workers necessary to conduct the funeral). Children under 12 months old are not counted towards this cap
<b>Weddings</b>	<b>Weddings (indoor and outdoor):</b> Not permitted unless end of life or for deportation reasons. Involves only 5 persons (including the two persons being married, celebrant, two witnesses)
<b>Indoor physical recreation &amp; sport</b>	<b>Closed.</b> Hydrotherapy open for permitted purposes only
<b>Play centres, indoor skateparks, indoor trampolining centres</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Outdoor physical recreation &amp; sport</b>	<b>Closed.</b> Outdoor playgrounds, skateparks, basketball courts and gym equipment closed
<b>Community facilities</b>	<b>Closed.</b> Open for click and collect and essential services only.
<b>Creative Studios</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Entertainment and Leisure</b>	<b>Indoor fixed seated entertainment:</b> Closed
	<b>Outdoor fixed seated entertainment:</b> Closed
	<b>Non-seated indoor venues:</b> Closed
	<b>Non-seated outdoor venues:</b> Closed
	<b>Arcades, escape rooms, bingo centres:</b> Closed
	<b>Drive-in cinemas:</b> Closed
	<b>Amusement parks:</b> Closed
	<b>Casinos:</b> Closed
	<b>Retail betting venue:</b> Closed
	<b>Electronic gaming:</b> Closed
	<b>Karaoke and Nightclubs:</b> Closed
<b>Sex on premises, brothels and sexually explicit venues:</b> Closed	
<b>Business function facilities and conference centres</b>	<b>Closed</b>
<b>Public events and business events</b>	<b>Events:</b> Cannot proceed under these settings. Exception for professional sport where no crowds are present
<b>General retail</b>	<b>Essential retail:</b> Open, DQ 1 per 4sqm <b>Other/general retail:</b> Closed (open for contactless click and collect only) <b>Auction houses:</b> Closed (open for online only)



	Metropolitan Melbourne settings
Hairdressing, beauty, personal care	Closed
Hospitality	Open for take-away only
Accommodation	Closed unless for permitted reasons, or shelter in place. No new bookings except for authorised reasons
Real Estate Services	Inspections: Closed Auctions: Closed (remote auctions only)
Tours and transport	Tourism spaces: Closed
	Tour transport: Closed
Care Facility Visitors	<p><b>Visitor restrictions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For permitted purposes only, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To provide care and support for the resident's physical and emotional wellbeing (including mental health support and support for people living with dementia)</li> <li>To support residents under 18 years of age</li> <li>As a nominated person under the Mental Health Act</li> <li>To provide interpreter or informal language support</li> <li>For learning to support the resident's care upon discharge</li> <li>To provide end of life support to a resident (this also includes life threatening conditions)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Non-essential contractors are restricted from entry</li> <li>No more than two visitors per day unless visit is for end-of-life reasons. For end-of-life visits, two visitors are permitted at a time with no maximum daily limit..</li> <li>A group may exceed the "two visitors at a time" rule if dependants of a visitor are in the group and care for the dependants cannot be arranged.</li> <li>Prospective residents not permitted to visit.</li> </ul>
Hospital Visitors	<p><b>Visitors restrictions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For permitted purposes only, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As a parent, guardian or carer of a child who is a patient in hospital</li> <li>To provide care and support for the resident's physical and emotional wellbeing</li> <li>To support residents under 18 years of age</li> <li>As a nominated person under the Mental Health Act</li> <li>To provide interpreter or informal language support</li> <li>For learning to support the resident's care upon discharge</li> <li>As a carer of a patient with a disability</li> <li>Accompanying someone to the emergency department or outpatient clinic</li> <li>As a partner of a pregnant woman or patient in a maternity ward</li> <li>To provide end of life support to a patient (this also includes life threatening conditions)</li> </ul> </li> <li>Non-essential contractors are restricted from entry</li> <li>No more than two visitors per day unless visit is for end of live reasons. For end-of-life visits, two visitors are permitted at a time with no maximum daily limit.. A group may exceed the "two visitors at a time" rule if dependants of a visitor are in the group and care for the dependants cannot be arranged.</li> </ul>

# Victorian Government QR Code Service

- All businesses and workplace are now required to use the Victorian Government QR Code Service, unless an exemption applies.
- Businesses must ensure that every customer and visitor has checked-in, no matter how long they are at the premises.
- Checking in with the Victorian Government QR Code Service is the best way to help stop the spread of COVID-19. It is free and simple to download and use.
- Businesses can check in guests who don't have a smartphone via the **Kiosk check-in function**.
- Businesses that do not comply with QR code requirements will risk fines.

More information: [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/Qrcode](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/Qrcode)

# Getting tested

- Make sure all your workers know to get tested if they have any of the following symptoms: fever, chills or sweats, cough, sore throat, shortness of breath, runny nose and loss or change in sense of smell or taste.
- After their test, they must go home immediately and stay there until they receive the result.
- If you are feeling unwell do not go to work. Anyone with symptoms should get tested immediately.
- The list of [testing sites](#) includes wait times.
- If you are worried you will lose pay while you wait for your results you may be eligible for a [COVID-19 Test Isolation Payment](#).

# Get vaccinated

- The vaccine reduces your risk of getting sick and helps to protect your friends, family and community.
- Please support your workers to get vaccinated. Appointments can be booked via: [www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine](http://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccine).
- The vaccines being used in Australia are safe and very effective at preventing serious illness and loss of life due to COVID-19.
- Workplace COVIDSafe practices continue to be vital, even if people in your workplace have been vaccinated.

# Business information

## Update your COVIDSafe Plan

- Every business with on-site operations must have a [COVIDSafe Plan](#). They help you reduce the risk of COVID-19 in your workplace.
- Your COVIDSafe Plan is a list of safety actions. It should be reviewed and updated regularly and discussed with your workers.

## Supporting collateral

- We have posters and signage that remind workers and customers of what they need to do to be COVIDSafe.
- We also have factsheets on good hygiene, cleaning and sanitising and resources that help you respond to restriction changes.
- Visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/signs-posters-and-templates](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/signs-posters-and-templates) to download the latest signage.

# More information

Premier's statement – [Thursday 16 August](#)

Restrictions table from 11:59pm [Monday 16 August](#)

[Sector-specific information](#)

[COVIDSafe Settings](#)

[Business Support Packages](#)

[COVIDSafe Plan](#)

Call the Business Victoria Hotline on 13 22 15

Industry questions can be emailed to: [icc@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:icc@ecodev.vic.gov.au)

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