

BULLETIN

Workplace Relations



Reference No: Lockdown extended\dh-8-21

Date issued: 16/08/2021

Lockdown extended in Metropolitan Melbourne until 11:59pm Thursday 2 September 2021 – with curfew and work permits reintroduced

Further to our recent [Bulletin](#), the Victorian Premier has today [announced](#) a further **two-week lockdown extension for Metropolitan Melbourne until 11:59pm Thursday 2 September 2021**.

Under an updated [Table of Restrictions](#), **Metropolitan Melbourne** will also see the reintroduction of:

- a **9pm – 5am curfew** from **11:59pm tonight, Monday 16 August 2021**; and
- **work permits** for authorised workers from **11:59pm tomorrow, Tuesday 17 August 2021**.

Accordingly, within **Metropolitan Melbourne**, there remain five reasons for people to leave their home:

- getting necessary goods or services
- care or other compassionate reasons
- exercise (up to 2 hours per day)
- authorised work and permitted education if it can't be done from home
- to get vaccinated at the nearest possible location (and other specified reasons).

The limitation on exercise and shopping remain **five kilometres from home** – or the closest location (if not within the five kilometre radius).

Members are reminded that currently, the following automotive industry businesses can continue to operate in **Metropolitan Melbourne** as **authorised providers and workers**:

- Petrol stations, including a petrol station that sells groceries
- Vehicle and mechanical repair services
- Contactless 'Click and collect/deliver' services
- Emergency repair workers
- Roadside assistance services
- Ancillary and support businesses, where necessary for the operations of an authorised provider
- Administrative services provided by an employer to enable its employees to work from home – e.g. payroll and IT services
- Truck stops and roadhouses, but not the provision of seated dining or shower facilities to persons who are not transport, freight or logistics drivers.

Work Permits

Authorised workers will be required to **carry permits** when working, and when travelling for work, from **11:59pm tomorrow, Tuesday 17 August 2021**. The permits will need to be **certified by the employer**. Whilst the new work permits are yet to be released, VACC understands that it will be similar to arrangements that were introduced in August last year. Accordingly, it is recommended members refamiliarise themselves with those arrangements outlined in a previous [Bulletin](#). In addition, VACC has prepared a **provisional** work permit template (based on Victorian Government permit system from last year) which is available [here](#).

VACC will provide a further update once the details of the new work permit system is released, including a finalised work permit template (if different to the provisional template provided above).

Face coverings

Must be carried at all times and **worn indoors and outdoors** except if at home, or when visiting an intimate partner's place of residence or if an exemption applies.

Density quotients

For the above workplaces that are authorised to remain open during the lockdown, density quotients in shared spaces and publicly accessible areas at the work premises of **1 person per 4 square metres**.

QR Code Requirements

The electronic record keeping requirements through **Victorian Government QR Code Service** will continue to apply for those businesses that are eligible to continue operating, including the requirements to make reasonable efforts to ensure people check-in and to prominently display signage at each entrance so that members of the public can check-in.

COVIDSafe Plan

VACC recommends that COVIDSafe Plans should be reviewed to ensure it remains current and that cleaning, signage, record-keeping and other applicable requirements are being adhered to and communicated with all relevant staff. Members are encouraged to contact the VACC OHSE Unit for any further information or assistance, including in relation to their [COVIDSafe Plan obligations](#) on 03 9829 1265.

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