

## ACU Announcements

Dear staff and students

COVID-19 is something that we are learning to deal with in our everyday life and adapt to as things progress rapidly. We are monitoring the situation closely in all states and territories and will provide the necessary information and guidance to staff and students. At this time, we are thinking of our colleagues and classmates in Melbourne who are now in lockdown and the impact of this extended period.

There are a few reminders I would like to pass on this week, as we do our best together to keep our community safe and ensure the continuing best possible learning experience for our students.

### **Exercise personal responsibility**

- The situation changes often, so please stay up to date with the latest public health information for [Queensland](#), [Victoria](#), [NSW](#) and the [ACT](#).
- Please exercise personal responsibility and follow [COVIDSafe practices](#).

### **Melbourne and Ballarat students**

- Students attending the Melbourne Campus for essential on-campus activities must wear masks when physical distancing of 1.5m cannot be observed. These activities include practical classes, laboratories and clinic consultations. You will need to supply your own mask, or from the beginning of Semester 2 they can be purchased from campus cafes and bookshops (if open).
- Physiotherapy and occupational therapy students have been granted an exemption to travel between the Melbourne and Ballarat campuses. You will need to carry a letter from the university along with your student card. You can [download this letter](#) through the student portal. Students and staff can also travel between regions for practicums.

### **Sydney hotspots**

- Staff and students who live in Liverpool and Campbelltown – where there is a number of COVID-19 cases – can still attend campus at this stage. However, if you attended any of the [identified locations on the specified dates](#), please follow government advice on self-isolating, getting tested, or watching for symptoms.

### **Travel between Melbourne and Sydney**

- Staff and students who have travelled from Victoria to Sydney are not to return to campus until 14 days have elapsed since they left Victoria. If staff return to Victoria for any reason, including weekend visits, they must commence the 14-day self-isolation period again on return to NSW.

Remember that if you're identified as a close contact of someone with a confirmed case of COVID-19 you will need to self-isolate for 14 days, even if your test results are negative.

If you need support, staff can contact our [Employee Assistance Program](#) and there are [counselling services](#) for students. We all respond and cope differently, so please take care of yourselves, and continue to monitor the [FAQs](#) on our website for updates.

**On behalf of Dr Stephen Weller and the Recovery Management Team**

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