

ACU Announcements

Thursday 30 July 2020

Dear staff and students,

I would like to start by acknowledging our staff and students who are in Melbourne and the Mitchell Shire. This has been a particularly unsettling and uncertain time and our thoughts are with you.

As a result of continuing public health orders in Victoria, we have **deferred our return to campus plan for students and staff in Ballarat until Monday 17 August**.

This will mean no change to the current arrangements in Ballarat up until the end of Week Three of Semester – with practical sessions able to continue on campus as is currently occurring.

A reminder that if you live in Melbourne or Mitchell Shire and would normally travel to Ballarat for work or study, you still cannot do so under current public health orders in Victoria. Staff currently working from home should continue to do so as advised as part of this public health order.

If you can't work from home or you are a student who needs to attend practical classes in Ballarat, you will need a letter that will enable you to travel between Melbourne and Ballarat. Students can access the letter [here](#); staff must [email the office of the Deputy Chief Operating Officer](#).

We will keep you updated about return to campus plan for Melbourne, which will depend on the latest advice from government and health officials.

Community engagement in Victoria

Students in Victoria should **not** make their own community engagement activity arrangements with providers due to the current lockdown and COVID risk. Students should either complete an ACU Engagement approved placement (listed on the ACUE website), or an online placement that can be done safely from home, or an alternate task provided by their LIC. Further information about these options can be found on the [ACU Engagement web page](#).

A reminder – stay home if you are unwell

A safe place of work and learning means that if you are unwell or you have cold and/or flu symptoms, you **must not** come to campus.

Seek medical advice and consider whether you should be tested for COVID-19. Further information about self-assessment, and what to do if you test positive for COVID-19, is available [on ACU's website](#), and public health authorities provide updated information about testing in particular locations.

Even if you are not unwell, you should also not come onto campus (for work or study) if:

- You have undertaken a COVID test and awaiting test results – stay at home until you receive results
- You have positive test results and need to self-isolate for 14 days – stay at home for that period

Nominated supervisors can and should direct staff or students to leave campus and to remain away from campus until they are well. If you need clarification about specific requests, please submit your question to Human Resources via [ServiceCentral](#).

And a reminder to all staff and students, particularly those in Melbourne, if you do need any extra support, please make good use of the services ACU has to offer both [staff](#) and [students](#).

Thank you again for your patience and understanding as we work together to adapt our approach through these uncertain times. For this reason, please continue to follow our communications and visit our [FAQs](#) page which we are updating as things change.

On behalf of Dr Stephen Weller and the Recovery Management Team

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