



From the
Vice-Chancellor
and President

Dear colleagues,

With a six-week lockdown in Melbourne commencing at midnight, I realise how disruptive and unsettling this will be for many of you. It will be tough, but I know you will respond with the resilience you have shown to date, and we will cope with this together as we have in the past.

Our foremost concern remains the safety and wellbeing of our staff and students, and the ability of our students to continue their studies in a safe environment. These changing circumstances will involve some important changes to the start of Semester 2 which I outline below, with specific information for staff and students on the Melbourne and Ballarat campuses.

Melbourne staff

- The Melbourne Campus remains open for staff and students who are unable to work or study from home.
- Practical classes continue to be conducted on campus as per the timetable. Staff and students are permitted within the health order guidelines to attend campus for these classes.
- All other lectures, tutorials and workshops will recommence Semester 2: online from 27 July, and a mix of on-campus and online from 24 August.
- Libraries remain open.
- Essential Staff – who are required on campus – will need to carry a letter from the university along with their staff card. Please discuss with your supervisor, and contact Paul Campbell/Melinda Hunt to be added to the Essential Staff register and issued a letter.
- Cafes will be open for takeaway only.
- Staff who live outside the Melbourne Metropolitan Area (including the Ballarat region) should not travel to the Melbourne Campus.
- Virtual Open Days will continue as planned unless otherwise notified.
- Staff with school age children at home because the return to school has been delayed should speak with their supervisor and explore relevant options including working flexible hours or taking annual leave or long service leave. Personal/carer's leave is not the relevant leave to manage the delayed return to school.

- Essential Staff will have access to free parking, subject to availability, at the Young Street Carpark. Any car parking deductions will be suspended for six weeks commencing 13 July 2020. Access is with your staff card.

Melbourne students

- The Melbourne Campus remains open for staff and students who are unable to work or study from home.
- Practical classes continue to be conducted on campus as per the timetable. Staff and students are permitted within the health order guidelines to attend campus for these classes.
- Placements will continue as scheduled but are subject to advice from our placement partners – please check your student email and LEO sites regularly for updates.
- All other lectures, tutorials and workshops will recommence Semester 2: online from 27 July, and a mix of on-campus and online from 24 August.
- Libraries remain open.
- If you need to travel to campus for your practical class or because you can't study at home, you will need to carry a letter from the university along with your student card. You can [download this letter](#) through the student portal.
- Cafes will be open for takeaway only.
- Students who live outside the Melbourne Metropolitan Area (including the Ballarat region) should not travel to the Melbourne Campus.
- Support services for students continue to be available [fully online](#).

Ballarat staff

- The Ballarat Campus remains open for staff and students who are unable to work or study from home.
- As communicated earlier this week, staff in Ballarat who can work from home must do so until 31 July, returning to campus on Monday 3 August – in line with [Victorian Government guidelines](#).
- Students in Ballarat, other than those with practical or clinical requirements, will be required to study online only for classes in week 1, then a mix of on-campus and online from week 2, commencing Monday 3 August.
- Practical classes scheduled for week 1 (commencing July 27) can be conducted on campus. Staff and students are permitted within the health order guidelines to attend campus for these classes. There will be no change to the scheduled timetable for week 1.
- Staff who live in the Victorian Lockdown and Restricted Areas (currently including Melbourne Metropolitan Area and Mitchell Shire regions) should not travel to the Ballarat Campus.

Ballarat students

- The Ballarat Campus remains open for staff and students who are unable to work or study from home.
- As communicated earlier this week, Semester 2 will commence as planned, however students – other than those with practical or clinical requirements – will be required to study online only for classes in week 1, then a mix of on-campus and online from week 2, commencing Monday 3 August.
- Practical classes continue to be conducted on campus. Staff and students are permitted within the health order guidelines to attend campus for these classes.
- There will be no change to the scheduled timetable for week 1. Your personal timetable will remain the same in Allocate+, even where your on-campus activities have been moved online. LEO will be the source of platform changes, so please continue to monitor your unit LEO sites in case information changes.

- Support services for students continue to be available [fully online](#).
- Students who live in the Victorian Lockdown and Restricted Areas (currently including Melbourne Metropolitan Area and Mitchell Shire regions) should not travel to the Ballarat Campus.

These arrangements will remain in place until otherwise advised. We are closely monitoring each development and will revise our return-to-campus plan should the Victorian Government change restrictions.

As you return to campuses, it is important to remember that we all have a personal responsibility to maintain good hygiene and physical distancing practices, including remaining at home when unwell. Please look out for changes on campus and follow directional signage and the advice of campus staff.

A reminder that:

- ACU will comply with government restrictions and public health orders
- the return of all members of the campus community will support the activities (and services) of the university
- ACU will continue to ensure that the physical campus is safe, prepared and ready by managing workplace health and safety and hygiene
- staff and students have a personal responsibility to maintain good hygiene and physical distancing practices, including remaining at home when unwell.

Please continue to monitor the [FAQs](#) on our website which are updated regularly.

Best,

Greg

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