



VTA UPDATE: COVID – 19 Restrictions Update

7th July 2020

The Victorian Government has just announced an increase in restrictions for residents of metropolitan Melbourne and Mitchell Shire to ensure that the COVID-19 pandemic does not get further out of control.

The following activities are permitted.

1. Travel to and from work.
2. Travel to the shops for essential supplies.
3. Travelling for study.
4. Travelling to give or receive medical care.

All other activities are to be restricted with all of the correct protocols maintained.

The heavy vehicle industry is an essential service and therefore will not be directly affected by these restrictions.

Victorian-New South Wales Border Closure

Further to yesterday's communication regarding the pending closure of the Victorian border with New South Wales from midnight tonight, we are still awaiting formal advice from Services NSW about procedures and conditions governing the movement of freight from Victoria into NSW.

We remain certain that transport workers transporting freight over the border will be exempt from the border restrictions because they are carrying out an essential service.

The latest information from Services NSW, who have been tasked with co-ordinating the issuance of border declaration permits for those travelling from Victoria into New South Wales, is that *"Details on permits, special conditions for freight operations and other critical services, and provisions for residents of border regions will be available on [this website](#) soon."*

NSW Police will be physically overseeing border control measures in conjunction with the Australian Defence Force at the 55 border crossings with Victoria. Until any formal border crossing procedures are up and running, their advice for those needing to cross into NSW for a legitimate reason – such as heavy vehicle drivers on the job – is to "talk to police".



ACT Travel Restrictions

Restrictions have also been announced for Victorians entering the ACT by air travel only. From midnight tonight only Victorians with an exceptional need to travel will be permitted to enter the ACT, and exemptions will need to be applied for at least 48 hours (wherever possible) before intended travel dates. Exemption requests can be submitted to COVID.Exemptions@act.gov.au and will need to have the following details:

- An explanation of your need to travel to the ACT
- Name
- Date of birth
- Home address
- Phone number
- Email
- Travel details (flight number, by car etc)
- Date of entry to ACT
- Details of how long you intend to stay in the ACT **
- Date last in Victoria
- Name and address of where you plan to stay in the ACT.

*** ACT Health may impose certain restrictions in relation to your exemption. You will be required to follow these.**

**** As part of its risk assessment, ACT Health will assess your proposed length of stay in the ACT. A condition of entry may be that you will be required to complete a full 14 day period of quarantine in the ACT (at your own expense).**

Documentation to be provided: Identification; documents supporting your exemption requests, for example proof of employment, medical documentation. For further information about ACT travel restrictions visit www.covid19.act.gov.au/news-articles/act-border-restrictions

We share the frustration we know operators who regularly cross the border are experiencing and will provide updates as soon as we are aware of them. There are likely to be significant delays at the border and as always operators and drivers should put their safety, and that of their fellow road users, first.

Please contact the VTA anytime on 03 9646 8590 any time if you require further information.

Peter Anderson
Chief Executive Officer