

COMMON COVID-19 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q1: I'm a Melbourne resident. Can I travel to regional Victoria for work purposes?

A1: Melburnians will be permitted to travel to regional Victoria for work purposes if they are on the authorised worker and authorised provider list.

This means that workers that carry out work on building sites or at residential premises will be permitted to travel to carry out these works.

While in regional Victoria the worker would need to comply with the restrictions that apply to them in Melbourne.

For example, the worker could purchase take away food but not sit down to eat in a café or restaurant.

If you are not an authorised worker or on the authorised provider list and reside in Melbourne you will not be able to travel to regional Victoria.

Travel restrictions between Melbourne and regional Victoria will be enforced to deter people from entering without a lawful permitted reason.

The intent of the restrictions is to limit unnecessary travel between regional Victoria and metro Melbourne, reducing the risk of COVID being transmitted.

If the work can be held off until restrictions ease further, it is recommended.

Q2: Can workers from regional Victoria travel to metro Melbourne to work within an occupied residence?

A: No.

Q3: What's the rules regarding display homes, sales suites, and colour selection centres?

A: Display homes, sales suites, and colour selection centres can open in **regional Victoria** with a density quotient of one person per four square metres.

Attendees must check-in using the Service Victoria QR code app regardless of the duration of the visit.

Display homes, sales suites, and colour selection centres remain closed in **metro Melbourne**.

Q4: Are client inspections and handovers of homes allowed in regional Victoria and metro Melbourne?

A: Clients from regional Victoria can attend site to carry out inspections which includes handover inspections of their homes in regional Victoria.

Clients from metro Melbourne **are not** permitted to travel to regional Victoria to carry out inspections of their homes.

Q5: Can regional builders work on occupied premises in regional Victoria?

A: Following advice from Victoria's Chief Health Officer, the lockdown in regional Victoria lifted from 11:59pm Monday 9 August 2021.

This means that work on occupied premises can re-start in regional Victoria from 11:59pm Monday 9 August 2021.

Tradespeople can carry out repairs, renovations or improvements. At least 1.5 metres distance should be maintained at all times between the client and the tradesperson. The tradesperson must wear a face mask, unless an exception applies. The client should also wear a mask when the tradesperson is working in their home.

Minimise physical contact by paying with a direct bank transfer or contactless payment where possible.

Q6. Can solo outdoor services return to work at occupied premises in metro Melbourne?

A: From 11:59 Monday 9 August, solo outdoor services are permitted where physical distancing can be maintained.

This applies to businesses with an ABN providing the following services:

- Outdoor maintenance, repairs, cleaning, and other building work, including at occupied premises.
- Home renovations and installations (outdoor only).
- Home solar panel installations (only for outdoor work or in roof cavities with external access).

This means businesses with an ABN can resume an outdoor service in occupied premises when it can be carried out by a single worker and physical distancing from occupants can always be maintained.



Q7: Workers are claiming they have a medical exemption and don't need to wear a mask? Can the builder ask for evidence?

A: Unfortunately, no. You do not need a medical certificate stating that you have a lawful reason for not wearing a face mask. If you have a lawful reason for not wearing a face mask, you do not need to apply for an exemption or permit.

There are some proactive steps that can be taken to maintain a COVID Safe workplace for everyone, including those with a lawful reasons for not wearing a face mask:

- Maintain physical distancing of 1.5m;
- Practice regular hand hygiene;
- Understand the density quotient and capacity for your workplace;
- Maximise natural ventilation; and
- Regularly clean public spaces and shared equipment.

Q8: When can I apply for the new Small Business COVID Hardship Fund?

A: The criteria for the small business COVID hardship fund is currently being finalised by the Victorian Government.

However, in our discussions with the Government, we understand that this is imminent, and it will soon be open for applications

We appreciate that this fund may be the only financial support that some of our members are currently eligible for.

And, given this, we have been in constant discussions with the Victorian Government to make certain that they remain alive to the urgency and ensure that we can get you this support as soon as possible.

Whilst we know this financial support won't ever be enough to cover the money that's been lost, we hope it goes some way to helping get you through these challenging times.

We will continue to keep you updated once more details of the scheme become available.

Q9. Am I eligible to receive a COVID-19 Disaster Payment?

A: If you lost work or income during the COVID-19 restrictions in Victoria from 6 August 2021, you may be eligible for COVID-19 Disaster Payment.

IS YOUR BUILDER A MASTER BUILDER?



The relevant period of restricted movement for Victoria is Friday 6 August to Thursday 12 August 2021.

If you were eligible on one day during this period, you may be able to get this payment.

You need to meet the [general eligibility rules](#) and any specific rules for this event.

Information on business grants and programs is available on the [Business Victoria website](#).

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A broad-based organisation, we service the needs of the entire industry, from residential to commercial and engineering businesses, principal contractors to subcontractors, manufacturers and suppliers.

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We continually assist in developing the skills of our members by providing access to a wide range of services and proactive representation to government and industry. Master Builders Victoria also serves the community by fostering best practice work standards and acting as an independent advisory service for our industry.

