



Tertiary Provider and International Bulletin

Thursday, 4 March 2021

COVID-19 Update

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On Saturday, 27 February, the government announced that from 6am, Sunday, 28 February, the Auckland Region will be at Alert Level 3 and the remainder of New Zealand will be at Alert Level 2, for 7 days.

Welfare of students and staff

This will remain an unsettling time for some. As always, the number one priority remains the welfare of students and staff and ensuring that they remain safe and well. The Ministry of Health website has a range of mental health and wellbeing resources to assist, they can be found [here](#).

Alert Level 2/3 border crossings

At Alert Level 3 students and staff are strongly advised to stay where they are unless they have a compelling reason to move and are eligible to travel.

If students or staff wish to travel for personal reasons between Alert Level 3 and Alert Level 2 regions, they need to check whether they are eligible to travel on the Unite Against Covid-19 website, [here](#).

The full list of permitted reasons, and what evidence people need, is [here](#). If they don't meet the permitted criteria they may apply for an exemption [here](#).

Information about travel across the Auckland regional boundary for work reasons, including what is permitted and how to apply for an exemption if necessary, is [here](#).

Information for people who have visited Auckland



The Ministry of Health has advised that students, staff and others that have visited or left Auckland recently do the following:

- Check the [locations of interest](#) page to find out if you might have been exposed to COVID-19 by being in the same place at the same time as a confirmed case. If you were potentially exposed, follow the guidance for the particular location of interest, which is on the same page.
- Monitor yourself for symptoms of COVID-19, including some of the less usual symptoms like muscle aches and pains and fatigue. Details of symptoms to look out for are on the Ministry of Health [website](#).
- Keep a record of where you've been. Use the COVID Tracer App to scan QR codes and make sure you've got Bluetooth turned on in the app. This helps with contact tracing.
- Everyone should follow the Alert Level guidance relevant for where they are staying.

Managed Isolation and Quarantine and Immigration New Zealand changes

Following a recent review of the costs of running Managed Isolation and Quarantine (MIQ), changes are being made to the fees charged to temporary entry visa class holders, including any international students arriving in New Zealand. Full details are available on the MIQ website, [here](#).

On 23 February 2021, Immigration New Zealand announced they will bring more visa processing onshore and close offices in Mumbai, Manila and Pretoria by March 2021. Full details are available on the Immigration New Zealand website, [here](#).

If you have questions about how these changes affect the tertiary sector, please get in contact with the Ministry of Education.

COVID-19 testing and treatment

Everyone in New Zealand, including international students, can get free COVID-19 testing and treatment — you do not need to be a New Zealand citizen or resident. This access is irrespective of citizenship, visa status, nationality or level of medical insurance coverage.

You may need to pay for a test if it's for the purpose of entering another country.

You can find more information about this [here](#).

Things change quickly so stay up to date by following the links below:

For health advice, please refer to the Ministry of Health's website.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

For cross-agency information about COVID-19, including what support is available, health advice, and travel restrictions visit the All-of-Government website <https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/>

For resources in Te Reo Māori, visit <https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/translations/te-reo-maori/>



For information to support Pacific communities, visit
<https://www.facebook.com/MinistryforPacificPeoples/>

For resources in [sign language and easy read formats](#).

To keep updated on travel restrictions and visa information visit
<https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/coronavirus-update-inz-response>

For additional advice for tertiary providers/whare wānanga visit the Ministry of Education website
<http://www.education.govt.nz/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-3/>

