

# Victorian Freight and Logistics Industry Coronavirus (COVID-19) update

16 April 2021

## Travel to Victoria from other states

Effective from 11:59pm, 11 April 2021 the Victorian Chief Health Officer has declared the following areas are designated green zones under Victoria's 'traffic light' travel permit system:

- Greater Brisbane (City of Brisbane, City of Ipswich, Logan City, Moreton Bay Region, Redlands City)
- The Gladstone region in Queensland
- Byron Shire in New South Wales

Those travelling from a designated green zone must apply for a permit to enter Victoria.

The Specified Worker Permit may be available for other types of essential workers. You can find more information and apply for a Permit at Services Victoria's [COVID-19 border entry webpage](#)

## Surveillance testing in ports and other locations

Ports of entry workers continue to be a key part of Victoria's COVID-19 testing program. Over recent weeks, we have seen increasing testing numbers for workers at our commercial ports. It is critical that all workforces required to get tested, are doing so and that employers complete the required reporting for submission to the DH.

COVID-19 tests are being delivered on site at the ports by the Department of Health (DH) through a private pathology provider, in addition to fixed testing sites. Effective Monday 14 April 2021, the testing sites operating are:

- **Port of Melbourne** (7.00am – 7.00pm, Monday - Sunday)  
Appleton Dock Substation/Workshop (Appleton Dock Road and/or Enterprise Road)
- **Port of Geelong** (updated hours 9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday)  
Lascelles Wharf, The Esplanade, North Shore
- **Port of Portland** (7.00am – 3.30pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday)  
Main Breakwater Rd, Portland

In addition, ports workers can still be tested at the other (175) fixed testing sites in Victoria. To find your nearest testing location visit the DH ['Where to get tested'](#) webpage.

## Ports employers - reporting testing numbers to the Department of Health

The [Workplace \(Additional Industry Obligations\) Directions \(No 21\)](#) came into effect from 11:59pm on Friday 9 April 2021. Most requirements applicable to ports of entry are unchanged from the previous Directions.

Employers of workers in scope for COVID-19 surveillance testing, as listed in the [Surveillance Testing Industry List](#), should note the update to section 7(1)(b) of the Directions – employers are required to (ii) keep records of surveillance testing of workers and (iii) provide records of testing to the DH upon request.

- **Weekly reporting of testing for employers in ports is a request for these records under the Directions.**
- **Section 10 of the Directions specifies the penalties which can be applied for breaches of these Directions.**



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Any employers who have testing numbers to report but who have not received an email from DH should email [IndustryTesting@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:IndustryTesting@dhhs.vic.gov.au). The Industry Testing team will send you the link for the current week and include you in future emails.

Employers must complete the report weekly, even if no workers were required to undertake testing that week (e.g. it has been more than 14 days since workers last interacted with international crew or vessels).

## COVID-19 vaccination roll-out

The DH has advised all state-run vaccination services to pause their administration of first doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine for people under 50 years.

Border workers are eligible to receive the Pfizer vaccine as part of Phase 1a of the vaccine roll-out.

The DH has advised that for planning purposes in Victoria, ports of entry workers who are required to undertake weekly surveillance testing are included within the Phase 1a group.

- Any employers whose workers are included in Phase 1a and who have not been contacted about vaccinations should contact Philippe Aslanis at the DH on mobile 0437 650 761 or email [philippe.aslanis@health.vic.gov.au](mailto:philippe.aslanis@health.vic.gov.au)

The DH has commenced contacting employers to advise that household contacts of Phase 1a border workers are now eligible for vaccination under Phase 1b.

- Port of Melbourne employers: your staff may be contacted directly by Western Health

The DH appreciates your patience as it rolls out the immunisation program. If you have any queries related to the COVID-19 vaccine please contact [COVIDVaccination@dhhs.vic.gov.au](mailto:COVIDVaccination@dhhs.vic.gov.au)

## COVID-19 testing after vaccination

The Department of Transport has received inquiries about the requirement for COVID-19 testing following vaccination including whether testing is not possible as a positive result may be obtained. Epidemiologists have confirmed that a person who has been vaccinated will not test positive in COVID-19 testing.

The DH has confirmed that **freight workers who have been vaccinated must continue to undertake testing as required under a border entry permit or as a port of entry worker.**

The vaccination roll-out is at early stages and testing is essential to ensuring early detection of any COVID-19 in ports of entry and within the community.

This requirement may change in the future as more people are vaccinated.

## NHVR roadworthy testing

Authorised officers from the NHVR and partner agencies across Australia will conduct a mechanical inspection of approximately 8000 heavy vehicles – including buses and other special purpose vehicles.

The survey will be conducted between May and July 2021.

Random inspections will occur across Australia. Inspections will occur in all Australian states and territories in regional and metropolitan areas.

See the NHVR [National Roadworthiness Survey webpage](#) for more information.

## For more information

Freight Victoria in the Department of Transport is the central point of contact for Victorian Government industry information. Further enquiries should be directed to [freightvictoria@transport.vic.gov.au](mailto:freightvictoria@transport.vic.gov.au)

This update will be sent to you monthly or as required.