

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

4 March 2021

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

The [Workplace \(Additional Industry Obligations\) Directions \(No 18\)](#) require that in-scope workers undertake surveillance testing for COVID-19, as listed in the [Surveillance Testing Industry List](#).

All ports of entry workers who are in scope must get tested once each week as follows:

- A person who interacts with multiple crews/ships each day requires testing once per week.
- If workers only occasionally interact with crews or ships, they still need to be tested weekly, up to 14 days from the last interaction.
- There are no specific days on which workers must get tested (e.g. days 7 and 14). Testing can occur on any day within the first week, as long as every subsequent test is no more than seven days after this.

Employers of ports workers in scope for weekly surveillance testing must report the numbers of workers tested in the past week.

- Employers whose workers are in-scope for testing will receive an email each Friday from the Department of Health (DH), containing a link to the reporting form.
- Employers must report the number of workers tested during the previous week (Monday to Sunday), with the report due by 5pm each Monday. **A separate online reporting form is used each week to ensure the integrity of the data – do not use the link in a previous week's email.**
- 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).

## Surveillance testing in ports and other locations

The Department of Health (DH) and port employers are to ensure that workers in scope for COVID-19 testing at commercial ports know where they can be tested in order to meet the requirements for surveillance testing.

The DH through a private pathology provider is providing testing at the ports with four testing sites open during the week commencing Monday 1 March:

- Port of Melbourne (7.00am – 7.00pm, Monday - Sunday)  
Appleton Dock Substation/Workshop (Appleton Dock Road and/or Enterprise Road)
- Port of Geelong (7.00am – 7.00pm, Monday - Sunday)  
Lascelles Wharf, The Esplanade, North Shore
- Port of Portland (9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday)  
Main Breakwater Rd, Portland
- Port Hastings (9.00am – 5.00pm, Monday, Wednesday, Friday)  
1d Stony Point Rd, Crib Point, Tug & Amenities Office (adjacent to the main building).

The DH will monitor the demand at local testing sites and may adjust operating hours and the number of testing staff to meet this demand.



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There are no costs to industry for surveillance testing. It is important that staff nominate that they are maritime workers.

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 DHHS [‘Where to get tested’](#) webpage.

## COVID-19 vaccination roll-out

The Department of Health (DH) is progressing its planning for the roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines, aligned to the Australian Government’s COVID-19 vaccination schedule.

Quarantine and 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.

Planning is at different stages across the ports of:

- **Geelong and Portland:** Barwon Health are compiling lists of workers – to confirm these lists and with any questions, please email [misha.coleman@barwonhealth.org.au](mailto:misha.coleman@barwonhealth.org.au)
- **Melbourne and Hastings:** DH will send a letter this week to employers, to commence gathering data about their workers in scope. Employers should get consent from their staff to send on personal details.

The DH logistics team will consider the most effective model for delivering vaccinations, including opportunities to do this on-site in locations with a large number of workers to be vaccinated.

You can prepare your business now for vaccination rollout. If you require consent from your port of entry workers to share their personal information, please start seeking this immediately.

In the coming weeks you will be requested by DH to share staff personal information. They will use this information to contact your staff directly and organise vaccination.

If you have this consent already organised, it will make access to vaccination faster and smoother.

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)

## Construction Truck and Community Safety web page launched

New materials are now available on the VicRoads website to help industry and construction projects better protect the safety of pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcyclists.

The new materials provide guidance on truck standards, driver training, route selection, and traffic management plans and can be viewed on the [Construction Truck and Community Safety](#) webpage

The Construction Truck and Community Safety web page provides new tools and ways of working to improve safety for pedestrians, bicycle riders and motorcyclists and is the result of several years of work involving government, industry, non-government organisations and community organisations.

## 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.