

COVID-19 testing information for Commercial Freight Workers - Road

Fact Sheet for Commercial Freight Heavy Vehicle Drivers – October 2021

OFFICIAL

New control measures, including regular COVID-19 testing, have been introduced to the Commercial Freight Industry to limit the spread of COVID-19.

In accordance with the Specified Worker (Multiple Entry) permit, permit holders must comply with certain COVID-19 control measures including the requirement to be tested for COVID-19. Further information in the Victorian Border Crossing Permit Directions can be found using this link: Department of Health Victoria | Victoria's restriction levels: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19>

A Commercial freight worker means a person who is subject to the Freight Code: **and includes** a heavy vehicle driver, rail crew or a support worker **but excludes**

- removalists who have been in a Red Zone, or Extreme Risk Zone within the last 14 days
- delivery drivers that have been in a Red Zone, or Extreme Risk Zone within the last 14 days (being drivers of vehicles under 4.5 Gross Vehicle Mass) and
- freight workers who are unable to load/unload cargo in a COVIDSafe manner (e.g., avoiding contact with other people, entering residential premises (e.g., avoiding contact with other people, entering residential premises not permitted)).

Who needs to get tested and how often

Extreme Risk Zone or Red Zone

All workers who enter Victoria on a Specified Worker (Multiple Entry) permit from an **extreme risk zone** or **red zone** must be tested for COVID-19:

- at least **once every 3 days** for the duration of the validity period of the Specified Worker (Multiple Entry) permit on which they have entered Victoria; and
- additionally, **if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms**.

Orange Zone

All workers who enter Victoria on a Specified Worker (Multiple Entry) permit from an **orange zone** must be tested for COVID-19:

- **once within the first 3 days** of the validity period of the Specified Worker (Multiple Entry) permit on which they have entered Victoria. Pending a negative result, workers will not need to get tested for the remainder of the validity period of that permit.
- additionally, **if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms**.

Note: workers are not required to be tested for COVID-19 more than four times in any 14 day period, including where workers enter Victoria more than once in any 14 day period unless workers are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

- Tests are free for everyone. This includes people without a Medicare card, such as visitors from overseas, migrant workers and asylum seekers.
- Workers do not have to self-isolate and may continue working while awaiting their test results – unless they develop symptoms (see below). If symptoms develop, employees must self-isolate until they receive their results.
- Workers must continue to comply with all requirements of the permit even if a negative test result is received.

Further information can be accessed using the links below:

- Information on the Specified Worker (Multiple Entry) permit <<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/travellers-eligible-to-apply-for-specified-worker-permit>>
- Definitions of the different colour zones at the Victorian Travel Permit System. <<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/victorian-travel-permit-system>>

Workers must monitor for COVID-19 symptoms during their time in Victoria, symptoms include:

- a fever ($\geq 37.5^{\circ}\text{C}$) or consistent fever of less than 37.5°C (such as night sweats, chills)
- acute respiratory infection (such as cough, shortness of breath, sore throat)
- loss of smell; and loss of taste.

Where and how to get tested in Victoria

Testing Locations: you can attend any fixed testing sites that uses test tracker, for a list of the sites please check the Department of Health website to find a site that is convenient for you and select a site that has testing registration forms available.

Where to get tested | Coronavirus Victoria <<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19>>

Freight friendly testing sites (limited capacity)

- Nhill Trailer Exchange, Western Highway - 12pm-12am
- Beveridge Truck Stop/Weighbridge (southbound), Hume Freeway - 6pm-6am
- Broadford Weighbridge (NHVR) (northbound), Hume Freeway - 6pm-6am
- Longwarry Rest Area (inbound), Princess Highway - 12pm-12am
- Murrungowar Picnic Ground (inbound), Princess Highway (16km east of Orbost) – 7am-7pm

To save time please complete a registration form prior to testing. Please choose your industry as **Freight – Road**.

The form is available here <<https://testtracker.covid19.dhhs.vic.gov.au/industry-prefill>>

New South Wales operates freight friendly testing sites which can be found using the following link:

<<https://www.transport.nsw.gov.au/operations/freight-hub/transport-for-nsw-response-to-covid-19-for-freight-industry>>

Vaccinations and COVID-19 testing

Anyone who has received a COVID-19 vaccination must continue to get tested as part of the requirements for the Specified Worker (Multiple Entry) permit.

To receive this document in another format phone 1300 651 160 using the National Relay Service 13 36 77 if required, or [email the Department of Health](mailto:COVID-19@health.vic.gov.au) <COVID-19@health.vic.gov.au>.

Authorised and published by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne.

© State of Victoria, Australia, Victorian Department of Health, July 2021.

Available at: [the Victorian Government COVID-19 webpage](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/) <<https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/>>