

Essential Workers and Essential Providers List

Key points

- From 11:59pm on 27 October businesses in metropolitan Melbourne can open. The permitted industries list no longer applies.
- Under circuit-breaker restrictions you do not require a permit to travel to work if you are an essential worker.
- Businesses still operating in Victoria must have developed and implemented a [COVIDSafe Plan](#) to reduce the risk of coronavirus (COVID-19) spreading within the workplace (unless they have no employees onsite).
- For information about the restrictions that apply to businesses visit [business and work](#).

Essential providers

The following businesses can open under circuit breaker restrictions. If their employers are unable to work from home they can leave home to attend work.

- a supermarket, grocery store, bakery, butcher, fruit and vegetable store or fishmonger; or
- an indoor or outdoor market, but only to obtain groceries or fresh food; or
- a restaurant, café, pub, bar or hotel, whether licensed or unlicensed, but only to the extent that:
 - it provides takeaway meals or drinks or a meal delivery service; or
 - it provides food or drink to the homeless; or
- a bottleshop; or
- a financial institution; or
- consular and diplomatic services; or
- court, tribunal or commission services;
- a post office; or
- a news agent; or
- a pharmacy; or
- a petrol station (including a petrol station that sells groceries); or
- vehicle and mechanical repair services; or
- a pet store or veterinary clinic; or
- urgent services necessary for the health and safety of any person, animal or premises; or
- essential child protection activities; or
- a childcare, early learning centre, kindergarten, preschool or family day care provider; or
- a school, but only to the extent that education services are provided to the child of an essential worker or to vulnerable children.

Essential workers

The following workers can leave home to attend work under circuit breaker restrictions. If you can work from home, you should.

Any person who performs work that is essential for the continued operation of:

- an essential provider; or
- **essential health services**; or
- funerary or mortuary services or related activities; or

- emergency services, including:
 - the State Emergency Services; and
 - fire fighting services; and
 - paramedical services; and
 - ambulance and paramedics services; and
 - air ambulance and medical retrieval services (including Royal Flying Doctor Service); and
 - Victoria Police employees; Protective Services Officers and police custody officers; and
 - military and defence services deployed for activities in Victoria; or
 - state security or national security;
- essential infrastructure and essential services that are required to maintain or protect human health, safety and wellbeing (whether provided by a public or private undertaking), and including construction, maintenance and repair of such infrastructure; or
- critical repairs to any premises where required for emergency or safety; or
- faith leaders broadcasting services and ceremonies at places of worship; or
- retail goods workers supporting the operation of click and collect or click and deliver orders; or
- health practitioners, including medical, nursing, midwifery and allied health students on placement and practitioners when undertaking critical training and examinations; or
- maternal and child health workers providing essential care to newborns or at-risk babies and children; or
- a person who is critical to, and involved in, the State's COVID-19 response (including in hotel quarantine); or
- roadside assistance services; or
- government or local government services (whether provided by government, local government or outsourced) determined to be essential by the relevant Chief Executive Officer; or
- a member of Parliament or anyone required to ensure the functioning of the Victorian or Commonwealth of Australia Parliaments; or
- domestic and commercial waste and resource recovery services (including collection, treatment and disposal services and transfer stations); or
- Commonwealth agency services, including Australian Border Force and Commonwealth law enforcement and intelligence agency services; or
- services related to the administration of justice, including prison transfers; or
- essential legal services that are not able to be provided electronically, including urgent legal matters such as executing a will in-person; or
- journalist and media services; or
- a factory or facility that is not able to be shut down without causing damage or loss to plant and equipment, but only those operations that are necessary in order to prevent that damage or loss; or
- mining, building or construction services for critical infrastructure work, which includes, for the avoidance of doubt, road construction services; or
- administrative services provided by an employer to enable its employees to work from home; or *Example: Payroll and IT services.*
- organisations that provide urgent services necessary for the health and safety of any person, animal or premises; or *Example: the performance of emergency plumbing services, Centrelink services and foodbanks.*
- public transport, including taxis, rideshare services and other public passenger services; or
- air transport (including the operation of airports); or
- port operations; or
- freight services (including postal and courier services); or
- a transport, freight or logistics driver; or
- National Heavy Vehicle Regulator compliance activities; or
- a blood bank; or
- care services for people with particular needs because of homelessness, age, infirmity, disability, illness or a chronic health condition; or
- truck stops and roadhouses, but not the provision of seated dining or shower facilities to persons who are not transport, freight or logistics drivers; or
- production and distribution of;
 - food and groceries for sale by a supermarket, butcher, fruit and vegetable store, market or fishmonger (including for sale by operators of such premises at an indoor or outdoor market); or

- liquor for sale at a bottleshop; or
- medical and pharmaceutical products; or
- commercial operations that supply goods or service necessary:
 - for the implementation of measures to limit the spread of COVID-19; or
 - to support any business activity that may be carried out in accordance with these directions; or
 - to support the export of goods and services from Victoria; or
 - Example: manufacturing of personal protective equipment or hand sanitiser, or dry cleaning services.*
- primary industries only to the extent necessary to ensure adequate supply of food to, and care of, animals and maintenance of crops; or
- a hotel, motel or other accommodation facility to the extent that they provide accommodation services; or
- forestry; or
- manufacturing, fabrication or assembly of goods and materials necessary for or related to supporting petrochemical supplies; defence, security industries or construction and building industries; or
- ancillary services to ensure the necessary production, supply, manufacture, repair, maintenance, cleaning, security, wholesale, distribution, transportation or sale of equipment, goods or services required for the operations of an Essential Provider or Essential Worker; or
- a person who is:
 - critical to, and involved in, the State's COVID-19 response (including in hotel quarantine); or
 - a fly in fly out worker or a drive in drive out worker who is required for industry or business continuity and maintenance of a competitive operation where the service is time-critical, who is responsible for critical maintenance or repair of infrastructure critical to a region of, or to, Victoria; or
 - maritime crew; or
 - a transport, freight or logistics driver; or
 - a professional sportsman, workers that support the safe running of that person's professional's sport and public broadcast personnel.

Essential health services

Any provider of:

- emergency surgery, procedures and medical consulting undertaken for the investigation, diagnosis and management of conditions where failure to do so expediently and safely will lead to the following outcomes:
 - loss of life; or
 - loss of limb; or
 - permanent disability; or
- non-emergency but urgent surgery, procedures and medical consulting undertaken for the investigation, diagnosis and management of conditions where failure to do so in a clinically appropriate timeframe will lead to a predictable and evidence based outcome as follows:
 - loss of life where appropriate health intervention would otherwise have prevented this; or
 - permanent disability where appropriate health intervention would otherwise have prevented this; or
 - where clinical evidence supports an increased risk of a type referred to in the above points should appropriate health intervention be significantly delayed; or
- any health services provided in a hospital; or
- any health services provided by a general practitioner; or
- any health services provided at a hospital radiology service (other than routine screening services); or
- procedures and surgical treatment undertaken by dentists in the management of:
 - patients with obvious facial swelling due to infection i.e. vestibular swelling (no trismus), facial swelling (with trismus); or
 - facial trauma; or
 - severe unrelenting pain; or
- procedures to complete:

- any cycle of IVF treatment that a patient has commenced before the commencement of the defined period; or
- any procedure required for the preservation of eggs for future IVF where required health treatment will render eggs non-viable; or
- surgical termination of pregnancy; or
- drug and alcohol services; or
- the following allied health services:
 - allied health services provided by allied health professionals working as essential workers in hospitals or in residential care facilities providing critical clinical care or as directed by the hospital; or
 - allied health services provided by allied health professionals working in private practice providing care through telehealth and other virtual care options; or
 - students, medical/nursing/midwifery/allied health on placement providing essential care in hospitals or in residential care facilities, or through telehealth; or
- the conduct of human medical research trials; or
- the following mental health services:
 - the hospital emergency or inpatient psychiatric services; or
 - allied health professionals providing mental health services in hospital; or
 - private consultant psychiatry practice by telehealth or by face-to-face (but only in the instance of emergency clinical care for potentially life-threatening situations where telehealth is not clinically appropriate); or
 - allied health professionals providing mental health services in community settings by telehealth or by face-to-face (but only in the instance of emergency clinical care for potentially life-threatening situations where telehealth is not clinically appropriate); or
- but does not include:
 - cosmetic surgery, or other procedures not addressing significant medical conditions or elective surgery.
 - surgery.