

# Victorian Freight and Logistics Industry COVID-19 update

20 August 2021

## Change to Longwarry Rest Area COVID-19 Testing Hours

The Department of Health and the Department of Transport in consultation with the road freight industry have shifted the operating hours of the COVID-19 testing site at the Longwarry Rest Area (Inbound), Princess Highway, Longwarry.

Effective this Friday 20 August 2021, the new hours of operation for Longwarry Rest Area (Inbound) COVID-19 testing site will be 12 noon to 12 midnight daily.

The change in operating hours will better support the road freight industry and drivers to access testing on the busy Princess Highway interstate route to New South Wales.

This site and other sites have been established to provide COVID-19 testing for drivers who are unable to be tested during normal business hours (i.e. shift work, work breaks and schedules).

To ensure that we can manage testing for industry, we urge drivers and other workers to utilise the existing community testing facilities where possible.

## Where and how to get tested – Freight friendly testing sites

Testing Locations: You can attend any fixed testing sites that use test tracker. A list of the sites is provided on the Department of Health website link -

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

- Find a site that is convenient for you and select a site that has testing registration forms available.

Freight friendly testing sites (limited capacity)

- Location: Beveridge Truck Stop/NHVR Weighbridge (southbound), Hume Freeway, Beveridge - 6pm-6am daily (subject to change).
- Location: Broadford Weighbridge (NHVR) (northbound), Hume Freeway, Broadford - 6pm-6am daily (subject to change).
- Location: Longwarry Rest Area (Inbound), Princess Highway, Longwarry – **12pm– 12am daily** (effective Friday 20 August 2021 and subject to change).

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>

For more information or to find out where to get tested, call the 24/7 Coronavirus Hotline on 1800 675 398 or visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19](https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/where-get-tested-covid-19)

## Lockdown extended to ensure Victorian's safety

Victoria's Chief Health Officer has declared that the lockdown restrictions are extended in metropolitan Melbourne, until 11.59pm on Thursday, 2 September.



Department  
of Transport

The strengthened settings will see a curfew imposed from 9pm to 5am every night. This will operate as it did last year, with very limited reasons to leave the home. There is an increased police presence across metropolitan Melbourne to ensure public health measures are enforced.

Authorised workers are required to carry permits when working, and when travelling for work, from 11:59pm on Tuesday August 17. The permits need to be certified by an employer.

[Authorised Worker Permits](#) are available on the coronavirus website.

## Extension to the Lifting of Truck curfews across Victoria

With the extension of the lockdown, the Victorian Government has lifted truck curfews across the state until 11.59pm 2 September 2021.

This supports deliveries to Victorian pharmacies and supermarkets during the current COVID-19 restrictions.

Heavy vehicles can pass time-based curfew "no trucks" signs when making grocery deliveries to supermarkets or personal hygiene products to retail outlets.

Heavy vehicles can also remain in loading zones for the time required to make these deliveries.

The National Heavy Vehicle Regulator is monitoring and enforcing compliance in curfew areas.

The Department of Transport continues to work with local government, communities and industry to ensure truck curfews are not enforced on Victorian roads during the exemption period.

## Free Online Course - COVID-19 Safe Practices for freight and delivery drivers

The Victorian Government has launched a short online course on [COVID-19 Safe Practices for freight and delivery drivers](#) to help keep our industry safe.

The course gives drivers practical tips about hygiene, sanitisation, and distancing to keep them safe and reassure customers in this challenging environment. It also includes information about rest stops, planning routes and border closures.

The course is not compulsory but is intended to help drivers and industry understand the needs of the Victorian Government when entering and travelling around the state. Cold chain transport workers are particularly encouraged to complete this course.

The course takes approximately 30 minutes to complete, and a certificate will be issued upon completion.

## Compliance and Behaviours at Freight Testing Sites

The Department of Transport has received reports of inappropriate behaviour from truck drivers at freight testing sites.

Everyone has a right to be treated with respect while at work.

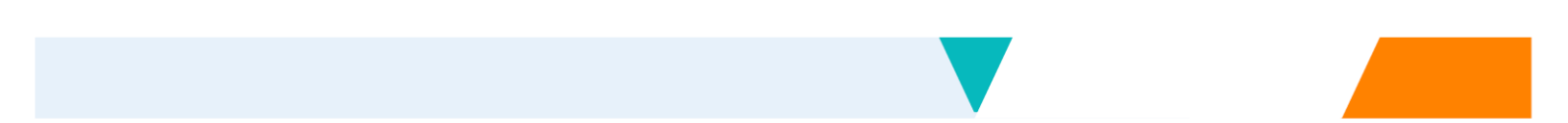
These facilities have been established to assist the freight industry in complying with the Victorian Border Crossing Permit Directions and in keeping themselves and the community safe.

## One Million Reasons for Victorians To Get Vaccinated

The Victorian Government has [launched a new vaccination campaign](#) with the aim is to administer 1 million doses in the next five weeks.

All port employers are advised that all their staff who work at an international port are eligible for vaccination.

Additionally, workers who are red zone border workers and their household contacts are eligible for Pfizer regardless of age.



All Victorians are encouraged where possible to book their vaccination appointment by visiting [portal.cvms.vic.gov.au](https://portal.cvms.vic.gov.au)/or by phoning the Coronavirus **hotline on 1800 675 398**.

For more information on Victoria's vaccination centres, including locations and opening hours, visit [coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-centres](https://coronavirus.vic.gov.au/vaccination-centres).

For more information on the Commonwealth's COVID-19 vaccination program, visit [health.vic.gov.au](https://health.vic.gov.au).

Noting red zone workers at the Port of Melbourne will need to call the call centre to book into a red zone clinic at Western Health or the Melbourne Showgrounds.