Bulletin – Tertiary Provider and International Bulletin

Wednesday 18 November 2020

**COVID-19 Update**

* **Face coverings mandated on public transport from 11:59pm on Wednesday 18 November**
* **Updated guidelines for tertiary education providers**

**Face coverings mandated on public transport from 11:59pm on Wednesday 18 November**

On Monday 16 November, the Prime Minister and Minister for COVID-19 Response announced that from 11:59pm on Wednesday 18 November, people must wear a face covering when travelling to, from or through Auckland on public transport. This includes long-distance bus and train journeys.

People are also legally required to wear a face covering when travelling on a domestic flight anywhere in New Zealand — this does not include private flights.

Drivers of taxis and ride-shares in Auckland legally must wear a face covering from Thursday. Passengers in a taxi or ride-share are also encouraged to wear a face covering.

There are some exceptions to this new requirement which are detailed on the Unite against COVID-19 [website](https://covid19.govt.nz/health-and-wellbeing/protect-yourself-and-others/wear-a-face-covering/).

The Auckland region, and the rest of New Zealand, remains at Alert Level 1.

**Updated guidelines for tertiary education providers**

The face covering mandate does not directly impact on how tertiary providers should be operating at Alert Level 1. Transport organised by tertiary providers (e.g. rental cars or vans) is not considered public transport and wearing face coverings on these forms of transport will therefore not be mandatory. However, students and staff may still wish to wear masks or face coverings as a precaution.

Our *detailed guidelines for tertiary education providers: how to operate under different Alert Levels* have been updated to highlight the Government’s mandate regarding face coverings on public transport in the Auckland region. You can view the updated guidelines [here](https://www.education.govt.nz/assets/Uploads/final-final-detailed-tertiary-guidelines-for-alert-levels.pdf).

**Things change quickly so stay up to date by following the links below:**

For health advice, please refer to the Ministry of Health’s website.

<https://www.health.govt.nz/our-work/diseases-and-conditions/covid-19-novel-coronavirus>

For cross-agency information about COVID-19, including what support is available, health advice, and travel restrictions visit the All-of-Government website <https://www.govt.nz/covid-19-novel-coronavirus/>

For resources in Te Reo Māori, visit <https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/translations/te-reo-maori/>

For information to support Pacific communities, visit <https://www.facebook.com/MinistryforPacificPeoples/>

For resources in [sign language and easy read formats.](https://covid19.govt.nz/updates-and-resources/accessible-information/)  
To keep updated on travel restrictions and visa information visit <https://www.immigration.govt.nz/about-us/media-centre/news-notifications/coronavirus-update-inz-response>

For additional advice for tertiary providers/whare wānanga visit the Ministry of Education website <http://www.education.govt.nz/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-3/>