

Management of COVID-19 Restrictions

December 2021

Purpose

The purpose of this document is to outline the range of responses USC will implement to safely and efficiently respond to Queensland Government COVID-19 public health directives.

These responses cover various aspects of USC activities and align with the levels of restrictions as outlined in the tables below.

Planning for restrictions

Supervisors and staff should be encouraged to review the **COVID-19 staff information** on MyUSC, for the latest information on working from home, COVID Safe USC, employee information, supporting students, teaching and research and impacted services.

Cost Centre Managers (CCM) should regularly review Business Continuity Plans, considering gradual or rapid escalation or de-escalation in level of restrictions and the impact on operations. CCM's must ensure their **Work Area COVID Safe Plans** are reviewed and/or updated at least every six (6) months unless otherwise directed.

Implementation of restrictions

USC will follow the advice and direction provided by the Queensland Government, including in the management of any confirmed case/s of COVID-19. The Director, Human Resources or delegate will be the primary point of contact with the Queensland Government.

Unless directed by the Queensland Government, the **Pandemic Response Group (PRG)** will determine the level of restrictions, which will be communicated by the VCP.

The level of restrictions applies to USC campuses and facilities. Staff and students studying or working at sites controlled by external organisations, eg work integrated learning placements must comply with the restrictions of those organisations. This includes adhering to any restrictions for staff, students, volunteers and contractors working in settings with **Queensland Government vaccination requirements**.

Access authority

Staff and students may require access to campuses or buildings during an elevated level of restrictions. Staff and students must obtain prior approval to access a campus or building by submitting a site access request to the relevant authority listed in the below table. Cost Centre Managers must maintain a record of authorised staff.

LEVEL	RESTRICTIONS	AUTHORITY
1 GREEN	Campuses open and operating with COVID safe rules, consistent with Queensland Government Public Health Directions	Not required
2 YELLOW	Campuses open and operating as per level 1 restrictions, with additional USC imposed restrictions	Cost Centre Manager
3 AMBER	Partial lockdown of one or more campuses or buildings, based on Queensland Government Public Health Directions	Relevant Executive Member
4 RED	Full lockdown of all campuses, based on Queensland Government Public Health Directions	VCP

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	LEVEL			
	1 GREEN	2 YELLOW	3 AMBER	4 RED
Locations	Campuses <i>open</i> and operating with COVID safe rules, consistent with Queensland Government Public Health Directions. Plan for Levels 2-4.	Campuses <i>open</i> and operating as per Level 1 restrictions, with additional USC imposed restrictions as determined by PRG. Prepare for Levels 3-4.	Partial lockdown of <i>one or more</i> campuses or buildings, based on Queensland Government Public Health Directions. Prepare for Level 4.	Full lockdown of <i>all</i> campuses, based on Queensland Government Public Health Directions.
Staff	Staff working on campus in accordance with Work Area COVID Safe Plans. Plan for Levels 2-4.	Staff working on campus, or from home dependent on restrictions in accordance with Work Area COVID Safe Plans. Prepare for Levels 3-4.	<i>Affected</i> staff to work from home. Staff providing critical security, IT infrastructure support, asset or research protection may access affected campuses or buildings with approval from the relevant authority. Staff providing critical IT, library or print services permitted on campus with reduced capacity. Prepare for Level 4.	<i>All</i> staff to work from home. Staff providing critical security, asset, IT or research protection may access campuses.
Travel	Staff and student travel <i>permitted</i> .	Staff and student travel <i>permitted</i> , in accordance with University domestic and international travel directions.	Travel <i>not</i> permitted to affected campuses or buildings with the exception of providing IT infrastructure support.	Travel <i>not</i> permitted with the exception of providing IT infrastructure support.
Learning and Teaching	Face to face (blended) and online. Plan for Levels 2-4.	To continue as per Level 1, with further guidance as determined by PRG. Prepare for Levels 3-4.	Online <i>only</i> for affected campuses or buildings. Students who are unable to study off campus are permitted to access affected campuses to pass critical milestones for completion of their degree or access study spaces. Prepare for Level 4.	Online for <i>all</i> campuses and USC sites. Students are <i>not</i> permitted access.
Research	Continue research activities in accordance with Queensland Government Public Health Directions and COVID-19 Safe Plan – Research, and risk assessments as required. Plan for Levels 2-4.	To continue as per Level 1, with further guidance as determined by PRG. Prepare for Levels 3-4.	Onsite new research should not start at affected campuses or buildings. Labs at affected campuses or buildings remain accessible for essential activities only, subject to approval of Working In Isolation Form. HDR students permitted access as authorised. Prepare for Level 4.	Onsite new research should not start. HDR students are <i>not</i> permitted access.
Events	Events conducted in accordance with COVID Safe Plans – Event Safety . Plan for Levels 2-4.	Only <i>limited</i> off-campus University events at the relevant Executive's discretion. On-campus events to continue as per Level 1. Prepare for Levels 3-4.	Events <i>not permitted</i> at affected campuses or buildings. Only <i>online</i> events allowed. Prepare for Level 4.	Online for <i>all</i> campuses and USC sites. Students are <i>not</i> permitted access.
Student Engagement SS&E, IT, Library	Student facing functions, spaces and support services <i>open</i> subject to COVID Safe Plans. Plan for Levels 2-4.	Student facing functions, spaces and support services <i>open</i> subject to COVID Safe Plans, with any additional USC imposed restrictions as determined by PRG. Prepare for Levels 3-4.	Student facing functions closed at affected campuses or buildings, with students redirected to support at other campuses or buildings and online services. Prepare for Level 4.	<i>All</i> student facing functions closed, with students redirected to online support service.
Services and Operations FM, Venues and Catering, USC Sport	Amenities and operations to continue, subject to COVID Safe Plans. Plan for Levels 2-4.	To continue as per Level 1, with services operating in line with Queensland Government Public Health Directions and any additional USC imposed restrictions as determined by PRG. Prepare for Levels 3-4.	Maintenance postponed at affected campuses or buildings. Delivery of services and operations restricted to critical security, IT infrastructure, asset or research protection. Prepare for Level 4.	Critical security, IT infrastructure, asset or research protection permitted to continue.