



CEO UPDATE - Coronavirus

18 NOVEMBER: COVID-19 Advice and Directions

CIRCUIT BREAKER RESTRICTIONS

As you are probably now aware South Australia will be implementing a circuit breaker from 12:01 am Thursday, 19 November 2020 for the next six days aiming to stop the spread of COVID-19 in our state.

We understand members are unsure about whether or not they can open their business from tomorrow. Information currently available regarding businesses permitted to remain operational to maintain critical services; businesses required to close; and permitted reasons to leave the house are available on the SA Government website: [covid-19.sa.gov.au/response](https://www.sagov.au/covid-19/sa-gov-au-response)

If your business or business activity is not included on the above list, at this stage you should assume that you will not be able to open.

We know that service stations can remain open, however, we have provided written advice to the Premier regarding essential services in the automotive industry which incorporates feedback from the Victorian experience as well as our member phone calls.

The comprehensive and official directions will be published and instructions will be provided in further detail before midnight and we will communicate this to members overnight.

We will be sending out a communication regarding apprentice training, but from tomorrow we will not be training students at our training and employment centres. Field officers and MTA staff will be available to answer any questions you have.

We will update you as soon as we can via email, SMS and our website: mtasant.com.au/news/COVID19

MTA Member Services will remain available by phone on 8291 2000 should you have any questions.

BUSINESS STAND DOWN

Businesses that are forced to close under the six day shut down will find themselves in a stand down position under the Fair Work Act.

'Stand down' is an industrial relations term, and refers to a closure of the business or part of a business for a period of time due to circumstances outside the employer's control.

In this event, the default position will be that the employee will not be given work and will not be required to be paid, but will have continuity of service (which means normal leave accruals will continue). They are also required to be paid for any public holidays which occur during stand down on days they would ordinarily have worked. If the employee has accrued annual or long service leave and wish to take it they can do so.

It is essential that you communicate clearly with your employees, advising them that they will be stood down, and the reasons for the stand down.

More information is available through our COVID-19 portal: mtasant.com.au/Covid_wr

LOCATIONS TO MONITOR SYMPTOMS

SA Health is also advising to monitor your symptoms if you visited any of the [locations listed on their Contract Tracing Page](#).

If you, or a staff member have visited any of the locations during the listed times, you do not need to self-quarantine but you should monitor for symptoms and get tested immediately if symptoms appear.

GENERAL SA HEALTH ADVICE

The SA Government is encouraging everyone that if you have any symptoms of COVID-19, no matter how mild, to please get tested.

Testing locations across Adelaide can be found on the SA Health website: sahealth.sa.gov.au/covidtesting

Patients who meet the following clinical criteria can be tested for COVID-19:

- fever OR chills with no alternative illness
- an acute respiratory infection (e.g. cough, sore throat, runny nose, shortness of breath)
- loss of taste and smell
- fatigue

The following advice is also strongly recommended:

- **Get tested if you feel unwell or show symptoms**
- **Work from home where possible**
- **Encourage vulnerable people to stay at home**
- **Avoid having visitors at home**
- **Avoid unnecessary travel**
- **Wear a mask where it is not possible to physically distance, e.g. public transport or crowded rooms**

Members are reminded to continue to follow SA Health directions and advice including social distancing and the use of hand sanitiser/washing hands. Any staff who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 should be directed to self-quarantine and should not return to work until a negative test result has been received.

More information can be found on the [SA Health COVID-19 website](#).

The MTA also has information relevant to businesses on our [COVID-19 portal](#).
