

BULLETIN: 52/2021

CHANGES TO THE NSW-VIC BORDER BUBBLE

With the outbreak in New South Wales still growing, the Victorian Government [has announced](#) that residents in the Victoria-NSW border bubble can only enter Victoria without a permit if they are travelling for essential reasons.

The changes come into effect at 11:59pm on Tuesday 3 August. Border bubble residents can only enter Victoria without a permit for:

- Necessary goods and services, including medical care and getting a COVID-19 test
- Care and compassionate reasons
- Paid or voluntary work (including for charitable and religious purposes)
- Education (including childcare and early childhood services)
- Getting a COVID-19 vaccination
- Sport and exercise at a sporting club or at a sport or physical recreation facility (excluding alpine resorts).

People crossing the border to enter Victoria for one of the essential reasons must not travel further than reasonably necessary to undertake that activity.

These permitted reasons also apply to Victorian border bubble residents who plan to enter NSW, if they wish to return to Victoria without a permit under the border bubble system. The changes mean that border bubble residents can cross the border without a permit to get the essentials they need, but not to visit a friend, go for a meal or to go on holiday.

Travel for sport and exercise will be limited to the minimum number of people required to participate and run it – with spectator travel not permitted. Parents can transport their children for community sport.

Existing exceptions to obtaining a permit will continue to apply. These exceptions to the permit system allow a person to enter Victoria for certain reasons, including in emergencies or if they are escaping family violence.

If a border bubble resident has travelled to NSW, or a NSW border bubble resident enters Victoria for a non-essential reason, they aren't eligible for the border bubble permit exception and can be subject to a fine of up to \$5,452.

The current list of local government areas in the NSW-Victoria cross border area remains unchanged. All of NSW remains an Extreme Risk Zone under [Victoria's travel permit system](#).

These changes do not apply to the South Australian-Victoria cross-border area.

COVIDSafety remains top priority

It's critical that businesses along Victoria's border continue to operate in a COVIDSafe way to slow the spread of the highly infectious Delta variant. This includes:

- Making sure everyone checks in everywhere, every time
- Wearing your mask correctly – covering your mouth and nose
- [Getting tested](#) if you are ill
- Updating your COVIDSafe Plan (check your COVID Marshal requirements)
- Supporting your workers to [get vaccinated](#) when they're eligible.

For more information go to coronavirus.vic.gov.au.

Regards

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