

Department of Education and Training Higher Education and Skills

Participation, Inclusion and Regional Engagement Branch Memo

TO: Learn Local providers, PIRE Branch staff, ACFE Board, ACFE Regional Councils
FROM: Ryan Collins, Director — Participation, Inclusion and Regional Engagement Branch
DATE: 03/02/2020
SUBJECT: Updated advice on novel coronavirus

Actions

- Note the following updated advice on the novel coronavirus
 - Continue to monitor the Department of Education and Training [coronavirus advice website](#) for updated information.
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Updated advice on managing coronavirus

The situation regarding the emerging outbreak of novel coronavirus has continued to evolve.

The Commonwealth's Chief Medical Officer and Victoria's Chief Health Officer have recommended a stronger precautionary approach to managing coronavirus for travellers returned from mainland China (not including Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan) from 1 February 2020.

The recommendation is that any student returning from mainland China (not including Hong Kong, Macau and Taiwan), who was in mainland China on or after **1 February 2020**, is isolated at home and should not attend their training provider until 14 days after they were last in mainland China.

This recommendation does not apply retrospectively. It applies only to students who were in mainland China on or after 1 February 2020.

Please inform your staff and students of this new advice through your regular communication channels.

Previous advice still applies

The existing advice remains that any student is isolated at home and should not attend their registered training provider for 14 days:

- following exposure to any confirmed novel coronavirus case, or
- after leaving Hubei Province.

The same advice applies to any staff who have returned or are returning from mainland China.

Further Information

The Commonwealth has also advised that: "additional border measures will be implemented to deny entry to Australia to people who have left or transited through mainland China from 1 February 2020, with the exception of Australian citizens, permanent residents and their immediate family and air crews who have been using appropriate personal protective equipment".

The latest advice, including additional resources and factsheets, continues to be available on the Department of Education and Training [coronavirus advice website](#), which will continue to be updated and also includes advice on:

- international travel
- maintaining good health hygiene
- health promotion posters and materials
- information, resources and contacts related to coronavirus.

This new advice is based on the latest expert recommendations of the Commonwealth's Chief Medical Officer and Victoria's Chief Health Officer.

The Australian Government has provided updated factsheets on the novel coronavirus for the education sector.

The updated factsheets are available on the Commonwealth Department of Education, Skills and Employment [website](#).

Thank you for your continued support and work to ensure the health and wellbeing of your community.
