

Single site arrangements for COVID-19 impacted areas of Greater Melbourne further extended to 8 July 2021

Update 20 June 2021

The Department of Health has released the following information via BIDS announcements on 18/06/21.

In response to cases of COVID-19 in residential aged care facilities over the past 14 days in Victoria, Australian Government grant funding has been further extended for two weeks to 8 July 2021 to enable residential aged care providers to continue single site worker arrangements in Greater Melbourne. Grant funding is available to support providers with out of pocket costs associated with implementing single site arrangements in Greater Melbourne for the six week period from 27 May 2021 to 8 July 2021.

During this period, providers and workers should be implementing single site arrangements as a key step to prevent the transmission of COVID-19 between facilities.

As specified in the de-escalation criteria set out in the [National COVID-19 Aged Care Plan](#), an area will continue to be considered a hotspot should there be COVID-19 cases associated with residents or staff in residential aged care facilities in the past 14 days. As a result of cases recorded over the past 14 days, single site arrangements will remain in place for a further two weeks to 8 July 2021. Arrangements may be further extended on the advice of the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer and in line with the de-escalation criteria, including an assessment of the risk to vulnerable populations such as those in aged care.

Key to this arrangement is ensuring that workers are not financially disadvantaged during this period and that they continue to receive the income they may have received from other residential aged care providers. Where this results in additional out of pocket costs for the primary employer, reimbursement can be sought through the grant application process. The Support for Aged Care Workers in COVID-19 (SACWIC) grant opportunity remains open until **31 December 2021**.

In addition to funding support, providers can also access guidance on practical implementation of single site arrangements, including employee relations expertise, through the [Guiding Principles Support Hub](#) website or hotline on 1800 491 793.