

Single site funding support extended for COVID-19 impacted areas of Victoria.

Update 8 June 2021

Single site arrangements for COVID-19 impacted areas of Greater Melbourne extended to 24 June 2021

To continue to enable residential aged care providers to facilitate single site worker arrangements while there is an increased risk of COVID-19 transmission, the Australian Government grant funding has been extended for two weeks to 24 June 2021. Grant funding is available to support providers with out of pocket costs associated with implementing single site arrangements in Greater Melbourne for the four week period from **27 May 2021 to 24 June 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. It is expected that workers will work at the site where they can work the most hours for the duration of the activity period covered. Residential aged care providers should also work cooperatively to stabilise the workforce and prevent disadvantage to any one provider.

These arrangements may be further extended on the advice of the Commonwealth Chief Medical Officer and in line with the de-escalation criteria set out in the [National COVID-19 Aged Care Plan](#), 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**. A webinar on single site workforce arrangements was held on 1 June 2021 to answer frequently asked questions. A recording of the presentation is available on the [Guiding Principles Support Hub](#) website.

Refer to earlier notice on 28/05/21 for the list of suburbs in Greater Melbourne.