



**BIGGER.
STRONGER.
UNITED.**

YOUR AGED CARE UNION

COVID-19 AT MY WORKPLACE FAQ



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

Q. Do I have to be tested for Covid-19 if someone in my facility tests positive?

A. Yes, if someone tests positive for Covid-19 at your facility you will be required to be tested. Your employer should arrange this, but if you are concerned this isn't happening quickly, don't wait, get tested as soon as possible.

Q. Do I need to isolate after getting tested until I get my results?

A. If there has been a case of Covid-19 in your facility, and **you have symptoms** you must isolate after getting tested until you get your results.

If there has been a case of Covid-19 in your facility, and you have been **identified as a close contact** of the person diagnosed, you must isolate after getting tested until you get your results.

If you **do not** have symptoms or you are **not** identified as a close contact, you might be advised to return to work after your test. If you are concerned about this, contact your GP for further advice.

Q. What happens if I test positive for Covid-19?

A. If you test positive for Covid-19 you are required to isolate immediately. If you are a permanent employee you are able to access your accrued sick leave for this period of time. If you are a casual worker you may be entitled to paid pandemic leave to cover you for the period you are required to isolate. Union members are fighting for paid pandemic leave for all workers. www.uwu.org.au/lettertocolbeck

Q. What happens if I test negative for Covid-19?

A. If you test negative for Covid-19 then you are able to return to work.

Q. Do I need to wear a mask at work?

A. All South Australian aged care workers are now **required** to wear a mask and other personal protective equipment when they come **within 1.5 meters** of an aged care resident.



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Q: Can I be asked to restrict my work to only one facility?

A. As of 27 August 2020 all personal care workers in South Australia will only be able to work in one facility.

If this change affects you, UWU recommends you keep a record of all hours you have lost due to this restriction.

The Federal Government has released guiding principles for residential aged care in Victoria, these guidelines outline protections for both permanent and casual aged care workers who are asked to choose only one workplace to work at. The guidelines include protection of aged care workers job and entitlements at the secondary facility for the period of the lockdown as well as principles to ensure aged care workers are paid their usual income.

United Workers Union is urgently fighting for these guiding principles to apply to all aged care workers in all states and territories.

If your employer is **not providing** clear information on what this means for you, or your employer is threatening or intimidating you, contact your union **ASAP** for assistance.

Q. What happens if I see something that worries me?

A. If you see something that worries you in your facility, you should contact your union for advice **ASAP**.

Q. What if I need more information?

A. If you need more information:

- ▶ United Workers Union website at www.unitedworkers.org.au/covid19agedcare provides general information on Covid-19 and aged care.
- ▶ Contact your union office for assistance.