

## **What can continue under Stage 4 Restrictions?**

### **Stage 4 Restrictions apply to metropolitan Melbourne As at 5 August, 11:59pm**

Feature film, television and documentary (excluding television commercials, student and corporate productions) that are already in physical production and operating as a closed set and post-production relating to these projects are considered a Permitted Work Premises and remain open on the condition that a COVIDSafe plan is in place.

Source: [dhhs.vic.gov.au](https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au)

## **PRODUCTION**

### **My production is currently filming in Melbourne, do I need to stop production?**

If your feature film, television, documentary is currently in production or post-production, you can continue as long as you are operating as a closed set and have a COVIDSafe plan in place.

If you are filming a television commercial, student film or corporate video, you must suspend production until the Stage 4 Restrictions have been lifted.

### **What does physical production mean?**

Physical production refers to filming or related creative asset production.

Under the current restrictions, pre-production activity, including location scouting, is not permitted.

### **What is a closed set?**

A closed set is a filming location (interior or exterior) where public or general access is prohibited, and the production company has complete control over the setting. Access to the set is to be restricted to essential personnel, and contingent on the COVID Safe Plan in place for the production and the set. Ancillary spaces required for Unit Base and support vehicles (e.g. make-up or equipment tracks) must also operate under closed set principles.

### **My production is about to commence pre-production in Melbourne, can I continue with my existing schedule?**

No. Only productions that have commenced physical production can continue.

### **I am working on a screen production in regional Victoria, can I travel from metropolitan Melbourne to do this?**

If the project you are working on meets the requirements permitted under Stage 4 restrictions (i.e. it is already in physical production, operating as a closed set with a COVIDSafe plan in place, is not a television commercial, student or corporate production), you may travel for work. You should not carpool and you must have a Permitted Worker Permit.

## **BUSINESSES**

### **My post and/ or production facility in Melbourne needs skeleton crew on site to check servers, manage backups and use equipment only available on site. Can this continue?**

This activity is permitted if it is relating to productions that commenced physical production prior to Stage 4 Restrictions. Every effort must be made to execute business activities at home. Where this cannot occur, an absolute minimum number of staff and work hours should operate in Permitted Work Premises only.

All Permitted Work Premises must have their COVIDSafe plan readily available and ensure that they have adhered to the directions of the Permitted Worker Scheme.

### **My business is closed under Stage 4 restrictions – can I visit the premises for administration or maintenance purposes?**

If your business is closed under Stage 4 restrictions, you can only visit to:

- ensure the facility is safely closed
- support employees who are working from home (i.e. organising I.T. equipment to be delivered to their home)
- address an emergency or otherwise required by law.

Emergency maintenance is also permitted.

### **Can I travel to my workplace or business for general maintenance or to collect/ drop off deliveries?**

No. If your workplace is closed under Stage 4 restrictions (i.e. not a permitted workplace), you can only visit:

- to ensure the premises is closed safely
- to support employees who are working from home (e.g. organising IT equipment to be delivered to their homes)
- in an emergency or if otherwise required by law
- to carry out emergency maintenance.

For more information on permitted workplaces visit the [DHHS website](#).

### **I'm a sole trader or independent creative and operate my business/work alone in a studio – can I continue to do this?**

No, these are not permitted workplaces. For more information on permitted workplaces visit the [DHHS website](#).

## **LOCATIONS**

### **I need to scout for locations for filming. Can I continue to location scout?**

No. Location scouting activity does not fall within the definition of a closed set. The latest restrictions are in place to limit movement between locations.

**I work for a permitting authority, what can I provide a permit for?**

Permits can be provided to feature film, television and documentary (excluding television commercials, student and corporate productions) that is already in physical production and operating as a closed set on the condition that a COVIDSafe plan is in place.

**I work for a locations agency, can our clients provide locations for film shoots?**

Locations can only be provided for feature film, television and documentary (excluding television commercials, student and corporate productions) that is already in physical production and operating as a closed set on the condition that a COVIDSafe plan is in place.

**ADVERTISING**

**Can TVCs and corporate videos continue to film in Melbourne during these restrictions?**

No.

**I am a sole operator and produce television commercials and film products for clients. Can I continue to operate?**

No. This work can only continue if it can be conducted from home.

**Can I run a shoot in regional Victoria?**

Regional shoots can operate however all crew and talent must reside in a regional area.

**Are Melbourne cast and crew able to travel to work on television commercials and corporate productions that are shooting in regional Victoria?**

No.