

Getting tested for coronavirus (COVID-19)

Up to 100,000 Victorians will be tested for coronavirus over the next two weeks as part of a major testing blitz across the State, to better understand how the virus is spreading in the community and set us up for the potential easing of restrictions.

If you have any of the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19), however mild, you should seek advice and get tested. The groups who can be tested even when they do not have symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are:

- workers who cannot easily work from home in construction, supermarket, healthcare, police, corrections and emergency services jobs
- people with a chronic illness who may be at risk of more severe coronavirus (COVID-19) disease
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders

What are the symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19)?

The symptoms to watch out for are:

- Fever
- Chills or sweats
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath
- Runny nose
- Loss of sense of smell

Less commonly, headache, muscle soreness, stuffy nose, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea have also been reported.

The coronavirus (COVID-19) test is free. There is no fee for the test when you get tested at a public health facility, mobile testing centre or GP offering bulk billing.

Testing for coronavirus (COVID-19) is available at many places across Victoria. To find a testing site near you, call the 24-hour coronavirus hotline 1800 675 398 or visit this website: <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/getting-tested-coronavirus-covid-19> or check below locations:

The different types of health services where you can get tested in Victoria

If you **have symptoms**, you can visit:

- **Your local general practitioner** who may perform a test or may refer you to a pathology provider for swab collection
- **A GP respiratory clinic** visit the [Australian Government coronavirus \(COVID-19\) site](#) for a full list of GP respiratory clinics and how to book an appointment
- **A Victorian hospital** coronavirus [Acute Respiratory Assessment Clinic](#)
- **A Community Health Centre** Respiratory Assessment Clinic
- **A mobile drive-through** clinic in a retail setting
- **A regional walk-through clinic**

***If you are eligible for testing without symptoms (see note)**

- **A Victorian hospital** coronavirus [Acute Respiratory Assessment Clinic](#)

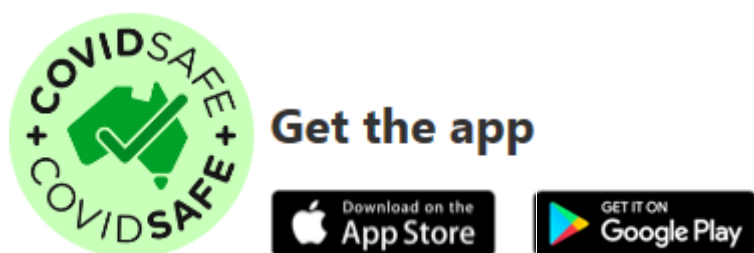
- **A Community Health Centre** Respiratory Assessment Clinic
- **A mobile drive-through** clinics in retail settings

Mobile drive-through clinics are open 7 days a week, from 9am - 5pm at the following locations (please note these clinics are drive through, clinicians can only test people who are in a vehicle, these clinics are not walk-in testing sites):

- Bayside Shopping Centre, Frankston
- Box Hill Central
- Bunnings, West Footscray
- Chadstone Shopping Centre
- Greensborough Plaza
- Eastland
- Highpoint Shopping Centre
- Northland Shopping Centre
- Pacific Werribee
- Pacific Epping
- Stockland Point Cook
- The Glen
- Victoria Gardens Shopping Centre
- Watergardens Town Centre
- Westfield Doncaster
- Westfield Fountain Gate
- Westfield Southland
- Westfield Knox

Hottest recent mobile apps:

1. COVIDSafe app



The Australian government Department of Health has launched a mobile app called 'COVIDSafe' on 24 April 2020 which can be downloaded via iTunes and Google Play. There were over a million of people downloaded the app in the first 24 hours. This is a contact trace app using the Bluetooth in the mobile to detect if someone has been in close contact with a COVID-19 confirmed case, in order to avoid the spread in community.

How COVIDSafe works?

- The new COVIDSafe app is completely voluntary. You can exit or delete the app at any time you like.
- When you download the app you provide your name, mobile number, and postcode and select your age range (see [Privacy](#)). You will receive a confirmation SMS text message to

complete installation. The system then creates a unique encrypted reference code just for you.

- COVIDSafe recognises other devices with the COVIDSafe app installed and Bluetooth enabled. When the app recognises another user, it notes the date, time, distance and duration of the contact and the other user's reference code. The COVIDSafe app does not collect your location. The contact information stored in people's mobiles is deleted on a 21-day rolling cycle.
- When someone is diagnosed with COVID-19, state and territory health officials will ask them or their parent/guardian who they have been in contact with. If they have the COVIDSafe app and provide their permission, the encrypted contact information from the app will be uploaded to a highly secure information storage system.
- 'Close contact' means having face-to-face contact for more than 15 minutes with someone or alternatively sharing a closed space with someone for more than two hours.

How COVIDSafe protects your privacy?

- The COVIDSafe app does not collect your location. The information is encrypted and that encrypted identifier is stored securely on your phone. Not even you can access it. Only the State and territory health officials with the user's permission can access the encrypted contact information from the app and the information will be uploaded to a highly secure information storage system.
- The contact information stored in people's mobiles is deleted on a 21-day rolling cycle. You can delete the COVIDSafe app from your phone at any time. This will delete all COVIDSafe app information from your phone. The information contained in the information storage system will also be destroyed at the end of the pandemic.

2. 「MyAus COVID-19」 app <https://www.myauscovid-19.org.au/>



A resource app for information about the COVID-19 and how it impacts you in Australia. It has a multi-lingual feature that would suit most of the people in Australia.

Stay Home, Stay Safe, Stay Healthy!

