

## TIASA NEWS FLASH – Tertiary Organisations Site Access Update

20 August 2021

Kia ora te whanau,

Further to the Tertiary Bulletin sent to you all this morning, just received from the Ministry of Education is the following Update re staff going onsite during lockdown:

### **Tertiary provider site access to facilitate distance learning**

The Ministry has received a few queries regarding access to tertiary education facilities, especially to facilitate distance learning.

- Tertiary staff can go on site for the purpose of collating and sending educational resources to their students who are otherwise unable to access resources remotely. This could include undertaking contactless deliveries to those students or arrange for couriers to undertake those deliveries. *(emphasis added)*
- A minimum number of staff should be onsite for a minimum amount of time, contact tracing systems must be in place, and physical distancing requirements must be maintained at all times. If there is more than one staff member on site, staff must wear a face covering. *(emphasis added)*
- Any tertiary staff undertaking deliveries will be required wear a face covering and keep physically distanced from others (two metres). There must also be no physical contact between staff and the person receiving the educational resources. Students are not permitted to pick-up educational resources from TEOs. *(emphasis added)*

So, unless it is specifically for the above purposes (or the other exemptions already permitted . i.e. a very limited number of clearly defined essential services - see the official Covid info available at <http://www.education.govt.nz/novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-3/> for more on this if you're unsure) i.e. site access by staff is still NOT permitted.

TIASA does not expect allied staff outside what is permitted to the limited degree set out above, to be pressured to go onsite. There was one attempted breach yesterday but the TIASA Branch at that Institution dealt with this very swiftly, and it did not proceed. We hope there will not be any more but please let us know urgently if there are any issues or concerns for your Branch or membership re this.

### **Stress counselling and support**

Emergencies are usually unexpected, sudden, and overwhelming. It's natural to feel emotionally and physically drained. You're not alone in this and you don't need to cope on your own. Friends and family members not affected by the event can help you cope. You can get more help and information from: your education provider; your GP or local community health centre; Youthline at [0800 376 633](tel:0800376633) or [www.youthline.co.nz](http://www.youthline.co.nz); [Need to Talk](#) by calling or texting [1737](tel:1737). In an emergency always call [111](tel:111).

We hope you are all staying safe and well, at home. A huge Thank You goes out to you all for the effort you are putting in by following all the rules. Looking out for each other is how we will all get through OK. Take good care of yourselves and your whanau, everyone, and, stay safe!

Kia kaha katoa,

**Shelley Weir**  
National President  
TIASA Te Hononga

