



Rail, Tram & Bus Union

Tram and Bus Division NSW Branch

14/07/2021

Dear Member,

Recent developments and clarifications have come from NSW Health and Transport for NSW yesterday, so here's the latest.

1. Tram drivers are exempt from wearing masks while in the cabin by themselves.
2. Bus drivers are exempt from wearing masks while running special if they are in the bus by themselves.
3. If your employer asks for proof of a medical exemption you need to provide it. Your employer has obligations under the WHS Act 2011, to provide a safe workplace for all employees.
4. This proof should be in the same form as a doctor's certificate. It should only state that you have an exemption for medical reasons, it should not say exactly why. You have a right to privacy and medical confidentiality.
5. The NSW Government has introduced 'surveillance testing' for people who live in the Fairfield Local Government Area (LGA). A map link of this area is below-
<https://tinyurl.com/f9rakhvy>
6. If you live in the Fairfield LGA area and you work outside of it, you need to get a COVID test every 3 days and ensure you have the results with you for proof for your employer and/or police.
7. People living within the Fairfield LGA have until **11:59pm 16 July 2021** to be tested before this requirement will be policed.
8. Both employers (who risk a \$5000 fine for failing to monitor test results) and police will be enforcing the requirement to have test results available on request.
9. Individuals risk a \$1000 fine for not having test results to show when requested.
10. More areas may be added to this list as time goes on.
11. The government has not yet decided if STA employees from the Fairfield LGA will be paid to get tested.
12. Private companies are waiting to see what the government does around this and we're working with employers to try and have testing as paid time.

Australian Rail, Tram & Bus Industry Union *Tram and Bus Division*

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ORGANISING WORKERS IN THE TRANSPORT INDUSTRY
PROTECTING AND BUILDING RIGHTS AT WORK

There is a misconception by some people that the Public Health Orders are somehow illegal or do not have the force of law. The Public Health Orders are made pursuant to s.7 of the Public Health Act 2010. Section 10 then makes it an offence to not comply with such an order. It is the law.

The RTBU suggests that if you're affected by this latest change that you get tested at a location either close to your depot or on the way to or from work. Hopefully this will limit the time you're spending waiting in queues at testing sites in Fairfield itself.

In Solidarity



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