



ATDP Update Special Edition 26 March 2020

Hello again,

So soon after last week's Special Edition of Update related to the impact of COVID -19 you could be forgiven for wondering why we think it necessary to reach out again. The goalposts – well perhaps not the goalposts but the National game plan – changed markedly over the weekend as you probably know. While it had been my intention, as I indicated last week, to allow individual trainers/assessors and candidates to assess the situation at each venue and make a decision about attendance accordingly, that has not had the outcomes I expected. As it happened, I felt that there was not sufficient information available about the management of containment measures in Sydney's CBD to give me confidence that last week's Recognition of Prior Learning program could go ahead safely, so it was cancelled as you know.



Last week we commenced collecting information on the situation in Maroochydore to circulate to trainers/assessors and candidates for this week's Level 3 Compensation Consolidation and Assessment program. In the event, a couple of candidates assessed that the responsible course was to withdraw and then mid-week, Tasmania closed its border which meant that one of our assessors would be confined to home for a fortnight on his return from the program. So, it was decided not to proceed with that program. As it has eventuated the border closures announced over the weekend would have necessitated last minute cancellation in any event.

ATDP AND ADVOCACY

Clearly the National strategy to contain the Coronavirus presents an impediment to the program that we had mapped out for the coming months. But it also presents us with an opportunity to get some other important work done. In the coming weeks the National Training Manager, Greg Hoving and Continuing Professional Development team leader, Brett Warner, together with the Regional Managers, CFMG members and myself will be looking at changes we need to make to the program to allow advocates, on the training pathway in particular, to progress their knowledge and experience during the temporary absence of RPL and C&A programs.

There is also a body of work to be completed in preparation for moving into Year 3 of the CPD program in July including more quizzes and Case Studies and the further development of CPD activities for Level 3 and 4 Compensation Advocates.

FUTURE PROGRAMS – RPL AND C&A

All programs scheduled between now and 31st May are postponed until further notice. This will be reviewed on 30th April and a further update provided.

CONTINUATION TRAINING FOR LEARNING PATHWAY ADVOCATES

The Training Team understands the frustration that the present situation presents for advocates wishing to progress from Level 1 to Level 2 and who are enrolled for postponed C&A programs. On the

recommendation of Regional Mentors, affected Level 1 candidates MAY be considered by the Training Team for the granting of early access to Level 2 eLearning material (that is before completing Level 1 C&A).

We have also commenced arrangements for conducting the C&A training and some assessment elements remotely for those affected by Level 1 and 2 C&A program postponement.

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The CPD Team will be approaching Trainers and Assessors and other Senior Advocates for assistance in further development of CPD exercises. Brett and other members of the team will be in touch over the coming weeks to seek assistance in writing further quizzes and case studies particularly for Wellbeing and Level 3 Compensation Advocates.

UNDERSTANDING COVID-19

Aligned to the current state of play we think it would/could be worthwhile for all Advocates to complete the COVID-19 online training session that is presently offered by the Department of Health. It takes about 20 min to complete and affords a good overview of managing the health requirements and explaining the Virus.

There is no cost involved, work area and qualification are classed as 'Other' and you can print out a certificate at the end. Because of the importance of infection control we are considering allocating CPD points so keep an eye on the CPD 'pre-approved activities' list.

The link is <https://www.health.gov.au/resources/apps-and-tools/covid-19-infection-control-training>

PROVISION OF ADVOCACY SERVICES

With the possible closure of 'Clubs' I am concerned that access to advocacy services might become very difficult if advertised telephone numbers are unmanned and normal office spaces/interview rooms are no longer available to advocates. I do hope that your committees are understanding of the need to continue to provide advocacy services and can make suitable arrangements.

E-NEWS

DVA has issued a special COVID-19 edition which forms part of its commitment to keeping the veteran community and the Australian public informed as the crisis evolves. [https://mailchi.mp/ea71edcef851/dva-e-newsfor-may-jun2019-218369?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/ea71edcef851/dva-e-newsfor-may-jun2019-218369?e=[UNIQID])

Between editions of e-news and Vetaffairs, you can check the DVA website, including the Latest News for Veterans page. Please share this email with anyone you think might find it useful.

If you have any queries during these difficult times please do not hesitate to contact one of the ATDP team.

Until next time – take care

Roger



ADVOCACY TRAINING AND
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