

## ANMF Newsflash: Entitlements for nurses, midwives, and healthcare workers required to go into isolation

Following queries from members, the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Federation Tasmanian Branch (ANMF) contacted the Tasmanian Health Service (THS) regarding your entitlements should you be required to go into isolation.

### The ANMF is pleased to advise members that:

- Casual staff with rostered regular hours or planned casual shifts will be paid for those rostered hours/shifts during isolation including penalty rates and usual allowances
- Casual staff without planned or projected shifts will be paid an average of their earnings based on the two pay periods prior to the declaration of the Pandemic. The declaration of the Pandemic was 17 March 2020
- Any fixed-term contracts due to expire during the pandemic will automatically be renewed. The THS has advised the ANMF that members should contact Human Resources with any queries regarding this.
- Part-time and full-time staff will be paid for their rostered shifts including penalty rates and usual allowances.
- All staff required to isolate whilst awaiting test results will be paid special leave. This is not deducted from your personal leave balances.

The ANMF has been advised by the THS that members will not be financially disadvantaged by having to self-isolate and if staff have any concerns or queries, they should contact Human Resources.

If you do become unwell, you will be required to use your personal leave entitlements however, if you test positive to COVID-19 you should claim workers' compensation. If you have no leave available, you will have access to (up to) 20 days of special leave (this also applies if you have caring responsibilities because of the COVID-19 pandemic).

It is **VERY IMPORTANT** for nurses and midwives to monitor their own health. If you are unwell with any potentially infective disease (respiratory or gastric) you should not attend the workplace as you will be putting your colleagues and patients at risk. Increasingly, managers are asking unwell individuals to go home.

The ANMF acknowledge the difficult and challenging times you are currently working in and will continue to advocate on your behalf. We thank you for your service to the community and encourage you to stay safe and take care of each other. If you are experiencing any difficulties coping at work or home, and in addition to the support from ANMF, debriefing and counselling support is also available free to ANMF members via Nurses and Midwives Support on Free call 1800 667 877.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact our Member Support Team via [membersupport@anmftas.org.au](mailto:membersupport@anmftas.org.au) or for urgent matters phone 1800 001 241.

**Please note:** Due to COVID-19 situation, our Member Support Team are now practicing social isolation and working from home. Bearing this in mind, email is the preferred and fastest way of contacting them.

Authorised by Emily Shepherd, Branch Secretary

20 May 2020