

# AUSTRALIAN FEDERATED UNION OF LOCOMOTIVE EMPLOYEES



Circular: 53/21  
Ref: QR Masks  
11/08/2021

## Queensland Rail Mandatory Masks

Dear members,

You may be aware that QR have issued comms relating to employees being mandated to wear masks at work, seemingly disregarding any employee who may have a medical exemption from their practitioner.

Whilst we understand the gravity of the COVID 19 pandemic and government directions to mask up, the AFULE is of the position that reasonable adjustments must be undertaken by the company to allow Traincrew to complete their duties and not be unnecessarily stood down due to a medical condition.

Some reasonable adjustments are easier than other i.e. alternative face coverings, alternative duties etc. Members of your state office had discussions with QR this morning on a way forward to address individual circumstances and what adjustments are reasonable to be undertaken.

We believe that the cases that have currently been put to the AFULE have the ability to be controlled and allow our members to continue to work safely.

If you have a certified medical reason that denies you the ability to wear a mask and you have been directed not to attend work, I ask that you contact your state office immediately so that we can commence discussions with the company on your behalf that enables work to be completed in a COVID safe manner.

If you would like more information, please contact your local AFULE representative or your state office on 3844 9163 or [statesecretary@afule.org.au](mailto:statesecretary@afule.org.au)

In Solidarity,

Mick McKitrick,  
State Secretary

**Traincrew representing Traincrew**