FAQ 5.1

Guidelines for members of teaching staff in winter semester 2021/2022
(valid from 1.10.2021, issued: 17.09.2021)

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1. **What vaccination requirements apply for students?**

LUH has organised a vaccination campaign addressing students, which will take place on 22.09., 06.10. and 13.10.2021. These dates just before the start of the winter semester have been chosen to avoid poor attendance (this has been the case at other universities). The BioNTech/Pfizer vaccine used in the vaccination campaign provides full protection after approximately 35 days after the first dose has been administered and 14 days after the second dose. If proof of full protection cannot be provided (yet), students must get tested before entering LUH buildings.

It became apparent that a number of students only considered getting vaccinated after reading the President’s email sent on 3.9.2021. In order to benefit from full protection by the start of the semester, these students should make use of local doctor’s practices and vaccination centres.

2. **What vaccination requirements apply for international students?**

Vaccines administered abroad must be approved in accordance with the guidelines of the Paul-Ehrlich-Institut and the coronavirus entry regulations, i.e. proof of vaccination must be provided as defined in the regulations governing exemptions from protective measures against COVID-19 ("SchAusnahmV") and the coronavirus entry regulations ("CoronaEinreiseV").

As per section 2 sentence 3 SchAusnahmV and section 2 sentence 10 CoronaEinreiseV, proof of full protection exists if (1) one or more of the vaccines listed there have been administered, and (2) consists of the number of doses required for full protection published there, and (3) at least 14 days have elapsed since the last required dose has been administered. Recovered persons should get vaccinated again as soon as the original proof of vaccination is no longer valid.
International students too must provide proof of a negative official test result, proof of vaccination or proof of recovery in order to attend on-campus lectures, ideally via the CovPass app, the Corona-Warn-App or a LUH access wristband.

Enrolled international students have received an email explaining this on 17.09.2021.

3. How will the 3G rule be implemented in teaching?

From 04.10.2021, the 3G rule must be observed by anyone entering LUH buildings. Consequently, access will be restricted to persons who have been vaccinated or have recovered from a COVID-19 infection as well as those able to provide a negative test result.

Proof of testing must have been issued by a family doctor or test centre, or in the form of an official confirmation (if applicable issued by health authorities, licensed pharmacies etc.). The test result must have been obtained within the past 24 hours (rapid tests) or within the past 48 hours (PCR tests). Moreover, a central testing facility located in the main university building (Welfenschloss, lower ground floor) will be established from 04.10.2021, where supervised tests may be conducted for a fee amounting to €10. Tests from other institutions/companies will not be recognised. Self-tests are insufficient.

Proof of vaccination must be provided as defined in the regulations governing exemptions from protective measures against COVID-19 ("SchAusnahmV") and the coronavirus entry regulations ("CoronaEinreiseV"), see FAQ section 1.3. Proof of recovery must be issued by the responsible health authority. Valid certificates (proof of a negative official test result, proof of vaccination or proof of recovery) presented at the university should ideally be provided via the CovPass app or the Corona-Warn-App.

In order to implement the 3G rule in the context of on-campus learning in a feasible way, vaccinated and recovered students (and of course members of staff) may obtain a coloured LUH access wristband (similar to those used at festivals), which can be worn around the wrist permanently and, if necessary, can be replaced. Wristbands will be available in the atrium of the main university building ("Lichthof") from 04.10.2021. This concept has been developed in cooperation with the Senate work group "AG Gute Lehre", where all status groups are represented, especially students. Other forms of visual monitoring, e.g. via an additional app or markers on the LeibnizCard are less feasible and cannot be implemented due to technical reasons.

Proof of vaccination, recovery or testing on campus must be provided at the entrance of buildings or in classrooms via LUH access wristbands or by presenting a valid certificate, ideally via the CovPass app, the Corona-Warn-App or proof of a negative official test result.

Due to the 3G rule, distancing is no longer necessary in LUH buildings (including classrooms, offices, student body council facilities etc.). However, if a minimum distance of 1.5 m cannot be maintained, face masks must still be worn.

Accessing LUH buildings without proof of a negative official test result, proof of vaccination or proof of recovery constitutes an infringement of domiciliary rights and can be prosecuted.

4. How can I monitor compliance with the 3G rule in my courses/lectures?

In accordance with the regulations to prevent the infection and spread of the coronavirus issued by the State of Lower Saxony, compliance with the 3G rule must always be verified. For this reason, we have to ask members of teaching staff to monitor compliance. For this purpose, specific entrances for students will be established in certain buildings where teaching activities take place. At these entrances, valid certifi-
5. What can I do if students refuse to comply with the 3G rule?

Essentially, students are obliged to comply with 3G regulations on campus. Failure to comply with the 3G rule constitutes a criminal offence. Members of teaching staff will not be prosecuted if they fail to notice non-compliance. However, members of teaching staff may exercise domiciliary rights and ask anyone refusing to comply to leave the building. Moreover, lectures/courses may be discontinued for this reason. As a last resort, the police may be called. Furthermore, an emergency number linked with the guards will be provided before 11.10.2021 in order to ensure that internal experts can intervene and provide support as quickly as possible.

6. What requirements apply regarding face masks?

Face mask requirements (medical face mask or FFP2 mask) apply in all LUH buildings in all traffic areas, even if a minimum distance of 1.5 m can be maintained.

Face mask requirements (medical face mask or FFP2 mask) apply in all courses/lectures until students have reached their seat or as soon as they vacate their seat. If a minimum distance of 1.5 m cannot be maintained, masks must be worn during courses/lectures.

Teaching staff should also ensure that face masks are worn correctly during courses/lectures, fully covering both the mouth and the nose. It is imperative that we all observe the rules and ensure compliance, especially to protect vulnerable students.

Additional masks will be provided by the university administration via the students' union (AStA) and the Equal Opportunities Office.

7. Which teaching and learning formats can be used?

In previous semesters, teaching staff have converted courses/lectures and examinations into online formats, developing a number of very innovative concepts in the process and making it possible for learning to continue during the pandemic. Thank you for your commitment!

These innovative solutions shall not disappear, however in order to resume on-campus learning we must work together to re-establish and facilitate the organisation of on-campus learning for students. Consequently, synchronous online learning and on-campus learning cannot be implemented under normal teaching conditions. Unfortunately, there are not enough study areas for this at LUH, thus teaching activities should take place on campus. This is a binding requirement of the Presidential Board, based on the need to provide students with feasible study conditions.

Online formats are still possible, provided that they do not interfere with on-campus learning. If online teaching is necessary for academic reasons, this must be implemented in such a way that students can still participate if they subsequently have to attend sessions on campus.

Online teaching can still be used for courses/lectures that take place at off-peak times or at the weekends where academically plausible and provided that students can feasibly participate without collision with sessions on campus. Where possible, streaming or hybrid lectures are particularly encouraged. However, all persons that appear in the transmitted video must provide oral or written consent.
Possible learning formats include – and are especially encouraged – those employing approaches such as blended learning or flipped classroom (e.g. switching between asynchronous preparation phases and synchronous presentation phases), provided that synchronous phases take place as face-to-face sessions with students (e.g. in small groups) at LUH. The numerous videos and recorded lectures – some of which are of a very good standard – should therefore continue to be used and effectively combined with on-campus learning phases.

8. Will LUH continue to employ contact tracing?

The current regulations permit contact tracing, but it is not mandatory. Moreover, the State of Lower Saxony has taken a more restrained approach in this respect due to the strain on the health authorities. Therefore, contact tracing shall not occur for teaching and learning in the winter semester. The contact tracing plugin on Stud.IP will be deactivated to avoid confusion among teaching staff.

9. What measures apply regarding ventilation of teaching classrooms?

All lecture halls without ventilation and air-conditioning systems will be equipped with suitable devices by the Buildings Management Department as soon as possible.

Ventilation requirements for seminar rooms and offices at the responsibility of the persons occupying the respective space must be determined independently via a carbon dioxide measuring device. To ensure the well-being of students and members of staff, ventilation must be optimised in accordance with the information provided in FAQ section 2.1.2. In case of any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the relevant person responsible for occupational safety. Institutes and faculties are asked to obtain CO₂ indicators and install them in classrooms.

Proper ventilation prevents corona infections, thus classrooms must be aired by fully opening the windows for 5 minutes every 20 minutes.

10. Do surfaces still need to be disinfected?

As a result of compliance with 3G regulations, surfaces no longer need to be disinfected regularly. However, persons or institutes for whom it is important may continue to do so.

11. What conditions apply for examinations?

In winter semester 2021/2022, online examinations shall remain possible and are expressly encouraged. Masks must be worn during written examinations conducted on campus, irrespective of whether the minimum distance can be maintained. Consequently, written examinations shall not exceed a duration of 120 minutes.

If you have any queries regarding this information, please contact vpl@uni-hannover.de

An online event on 29 September 2021 will provide information on teaching and learning in winter semester 2021/2022. Further details can be found on the invitation, which will be sent to all teaching staff.