

Guidelines for members of teaching staff in winter semester 2021/2022

(Valid from 04.10.2021, last revised 23.11.2021)

Henceforth, all students must wear face masks during all courses/lectures, even if the minimum distance can be maintained. Members of teaching staff may remove face masks if a minimum distance of 1.50 m is maintained.

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1. What vaccination requirements apply for students?

Following the start of the semester, LUH will continue to offer vaccinations for students. The latest information can be found at <https://www.uni-hannover.de/de/universitaet/aktuelles/corona/>. 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 be tested before entering LUH buildings.

It became apparent that a number of students only considered being 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, or, (4) in the case of a recovered person, consists of one administered dose. Recovered persons should be vaccinated again as soon as the original proof of vaccination is no longer valid.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. Checks for this group will be conducted via the general checkpoints, not separately.

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 1.2. 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 on a voluntary basis (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") and other issuing points (e.g. on SportCAMPUS and in faculties) from 04.10.2021.

The access wristband must be worn around the wrist, or, alternatively around the ankle, in a close-fitting and permanent manner. Changing the fitting of the band or attaching it to bags or similar objects is not permitted.

LUH guards are authorised to confiscate manipulated access wristbands immediately. Students and members of staff must hand over these wristbands to the guards and will be required to provide proof of vaccination or recovery again in order to be issued a new wristband. If wristbands need to be replaced due to signs of wear, the student or member of staff will be required to provide proof of vaccination or recovery again in order to be issued a new wristband, even if they hand over the old one.

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 not 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.).

Accessing LUH buildings without proof of a negative official test result, proof of vaccination or proof of recovery is considered as trespassing and can be prosecuted.

4. What regulations apply for pregnant and breastfeeding students?

Pregnant and breastfeeding students require additional protection as defined in the maternity protection act. The SARS-CoV-2 virus represents an unjustifiable danger to pregnant and breastfeeding students if they have contact with a constantly changing group of people or if they have regular contact with a larger number of people and suitable protective measures cannot be observed. Therefore, pregnant and breastfeeding students should (according to the health office) only participate in courses or lectures if a minimum distance of 1.5 metres can be maintained in addition to the 3G rule. If protective measures cannot be ensured, individual options must be discussed with the student, such as substitute or alternative assessments or hybrid learning models. For further information, please contact the LUH Family Service: familienervice@uni-hannover.de

5. 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 certificates and LUH access wristbands will be checked, e.g. by external personnel. Moreover, compliance in classrooms will be monitored by members of teaching staff or authorised personnel, either at the entrance or in the classroom.

6. What can I do if students refuse to comply with the 3G rule?

Essentially, students are **obliged to comply** with 3G regulations on campus in accordance with the regulations to prevent the infection and spread of the coronavirus issued by the State of Lower Saxony. 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. In case of urgency, the emergency number -2160 is linked with the guards in order to ensure that internal experts can intervene and provide support as quickly as possible.

7. 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.

Medical face masks or FFP2 masks must be worn during all courses/lectures, without exception. Members of teaching staff may remove face masks if a minimum distance of 1.50 m is maintained.

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.

8. 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 with-

out 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.

9. Will LUH continue to employ contact tracing?

Contact tracing is not binding for universities, since they fulfil tasks in the public interest in their role as public institutions. Contact tracing is possible via the plugin on Stud.IP.

10. What measures apply regarding ventilation of teaching classrooms?

Sufficient ventilation is ensured in all lecture halls with ventilation and air-conditioning systems. Therefore, additional ventilation is explicitly discouraged. 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.

11. Do surfaces still need to be cleaned?

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

12. 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.