

Framework plan for the implementation of the winter semester 2020/2021 (valid from September 22, 2020)

Preamble

The risks associated with the COVID-19 pandemic require a new understanding of social interaction, a needs-based information culture, as well as stronger self-monitoring and self-discipline. Much of this behavior is based on the insight and voluntary nature of the people involved and cannot be dictated solely by state regulations or instructions from the university management.

Taking on the responsibility and care for all university staff and students requires that we seriously implement the recommendations and guidelines instituted by Saxony-Anhalt's State Government and those recommended by the Robert Koch Institute. The following framework plan for the winter semester 2020/2021 forms the basis of this and will be supplemented by regularly updated Instructions (*Dienstanweisungen*) on the basis of the actual COVID-19 situation and new developments in our local regions.

Hygiene regulations

1. Anyone who has been in contact with persons confirmed infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus within the last 14 days is not permitted on university premises.
2. Anyone who displays the typical symptoms of the SARS-CoV-2 virus (fever, cough, shortness of breath) is not permitted to enter any university facilities or take part in any university events/courses.
3. After entering the premises/workplace, hands must be thoroughly washed or disinfected. Wash your hands several times a day (at least for 30 seconds with soap and water - read the notices).
4. Wearing a mask that covers both the mouth and nose (*MNB: Mund-und Nasebedeckung*) is mandatory in all buildings. This does not pertain to the offices. For classrooms, the regulations outlined for the respective stages for conducting teaching apply (Stages 1, 2 and 3).
5. Maintain appropriate cough and sneeze etiquette. With regard to personal contact, avoid physical contact (e.g. shaking hands). Hands should be kept away from the face.
6. Starting on October 5, students and staff are required to record the rooms they use for professional purposes on university premises by scanning the room-related QR code when entering the room. This QR code is attached at the doors/entrances (printed on A4-sized pieces of paper).

7. All university staff and students are urgently encouraged to use the German federal government's Corona-Warn-App

Google Play Store Link



Apple Store Link



Managing teaching operations (stages)

The way the university operates depends on the regional infection rate. A distinction has been made regarding the stages of managing teaching operations:

1. Regular operation (stage 1),
2. Restricted operation (stage 2),
3. Online instruction - campus closure (stage 3).

The respective measures are determined by the local or regional rates of infection. This allows for a local targeted response without compromising on-campus instruction in unaffected areas. The three campuses of the Anhalt University of Applied Sciences in Bernburg, Köthen and Dessau are evaluated separately with regard to the rate of infections

Regular operation (stage 1)

At this level, no university staff or students at their respective campus have tested positive for the SARS-CoV-2 virus, and the risk of infection is low in the region, i.e. the 7-day incidence is below 10 cases per 100,000 inhabitants at the campus in question.

For the Bernburg Campus, the numbers of infections in the Salzlandkreis district are applicable; for the Köthen Campus those of the Anhalt-Bitterfeld district and for the Dessau Campus those of the City Dessau-Roßlau. These rates of infection are updated and published daily by the RKI:

<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/478220a4c454480e823b17327b2bf1d4>.

Classes will take place as published in the university's teaching schedule.

When seated at the designated seats (marked with green stickers on table tops) in classrooms and lecture halls, a mask (MNB) does not have to be worn. This does not apply when entering and leaving the room. If the number of participants in a classroom exceeds the number of designated seats (green stickers), all participants are required to wear a mask that covers the nose and mouth throughout the duration of the class. The lecturer/instructor is exempt from this regulation.

In general, the obligation for everyone to carry a mask (MNB) applies.

Restricted operation (stage 2)

Limited regular operation has been ordered by the university management. This occurs if the following case configurations occur at a respective university campus:

1. A university staff member or student has tested positive for the SARS-CoV2 virus, or
2. the 7-day incidence has been higher than 10 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in the region at least for 7 days or
3. the 7-day incidence is on one day at a level of at least 20 cases per 100,000 inhabitants in the region or
4. is increasing sharply.

Infected persons and contact persons identified by the local Public Health Office (*Gesundheitsamt*) are not permitted to enter university premises for a limited period of time. For all others at the respective university campus, as well as for all university staff and students on the other campuses, the university will continue to operate.

A limited regular operation will be ordered for university campuses on an individual basis. The regular operation according to stage 1 will continue to apply for the university campuses that are not located in the affected region.

Measures:

Preventive steps to be taken; these usually include the following at each respective campus:

- Individuals from risk groups are exempt from attending lessons if they have a valid certificate stating that they are in a risk group,
- Stricter hygiene regulations as mandated by the university management, e.g. general compulsory masks (MNB) worn in all classrooms, limiting the number of people in rooms,
- No events with external guests,
- Increased use of online instruction,
- Increased use of working from home,
- Decreasing the number of meetings, in particular, cross-campus events.

Online instruction - campus closure (stage 3)

In the event of a temporary complete closure ordered by the responsible Public Health Office (*Gesundheitsamt*) or the Saxony-Anhalt Ministry of Economics, Science and Digitization, teaching can only be held online.

The following applies to all three stages:

Additional or necessary regulations will be announced by the university management on a case-by-case basis. The university management will announce that a Stage 2 or Stage 3 order has come into force and will also announce its cancellation.