

Guidelines of the Rectorate of 29. October (status on 17 January 2022) on prevention and a protection concept with regard to minimising the risk of transmission of COVID-19.

The Rectorate of the University of Fribourg

Based on Art. 36 para. 2 of the Law of 19 November 1997 on the University and Art. 65 lit. b of the Statutes of the University of 4 November 2016;

Based on the Ordinance of the Council of State of 14 September 2021 on the Covid 19 Certificate Requirement for Higher Education Studies;

Based on the directives of the Council of State of 21 September 2021 on the provisions derogating from the regulations concerning State staff during the Corona period;

Considering the situation in Switzerland and the decisions of the competent authorities in relation to COVID-19;

In an effort to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19;

issues the following guidelines

A. General

1. All members of the university community shall observe the **protective measures ordered by the authorities** (e.g. hygiene measures, minimum distance rules and the obligation to wear masks in accordance with point 4) and follow the **recommendations of the competent authorities**. In particular, the [measures and ordinances of the Federal Office of Public Health \(FOPH\)](#) shall be followed.
2. All members of the university community contribute within their **area of responsibility to minimise the risk of transmission of COVID-19 on the university campus**.

3. All members of the university community are strongly encouraged to install the **Swiss-COVID app**.
4. (1) **Homologated masks** must be **worn in** all university buildings (including offices and corridors) in accordance with the specifications of the Federal Office of Public Health, even if the minimum distance can be maintained.
(2) The obligation to wear a mask does not apply in premises where only one person is present and in situations where wearing a mask makes teaching (cf. Clause 7) significantly more difficult or is not possible for safety reasons.
(3) The obligation to wear masks shall also not apply in university restaurants and cafeterias, at aperitifs and during coffee breaks (cf. Clauses 15, 16 and 17 and the applicable obligation to sit) and during sports activities offered by the University Sports Office (cf. Clauses 18 and 19), unless the latter stipulates that masks must be worn for certain activities.
(4) Furthermore, the obligation to wear masks shall not apply to persons who can prove that they are unable to wear face masks for medical reasons; proof shall require a certificate from a professional who is authorised to exercise the profession under his or her own professional responsibility in accordance with the Medical Professions Act of 23 June 2006.
5. Persons with **symptoms of COVID-19** and persons living in the same household as, or who have been in close contact with, a person with COVID-19 and who have not been vaccinated against COVID-19 or are not considered to have recovered from infection with Sars-CoV-2 are **not permitted to enter the university premises, in accordance with official recommendations regarding the [treatment of symptoms and possible infection](#)**.
6. If, in accordance with these guidelines, access to certain events or activities is restricted to persons holding a valid **vaccination, convalescence or testing certificate**, compliance with the relevant obligation shall be **checked in an** appropriate manner. The security staff and the person responsible for the event or activity in question, as well as their assistants, are authorised to carry out the checks.
- 6A. Anyone who does not hold a valid vaccination, convalescence or test certificate and who unauthorisedly attends events or activities to which only persons holding a valid vaccination, convalescence or test certificate are admitted, or anyone who disregards the obligation to wear a mask pursuant to para. 4, is in breach of the University Regulations. In this case, the Rectorate shall take **disciplinary measures** in accordance with Art. 11c of the Law of 19 November 1997 on the University.
- 6B. Persons who can prove that they cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons are **exempt from** the obligation to present a **valid vaccination certificate**; proof requires a certificate from a professional who is authorised to exercise the profession under his or her own professional responsibility in accordance with the Medical Professions Act of 23 June 2006. However, the persons concerned must have a valid test certificate.
- 6C. The provisions of cantonal **personnel law** remain reserved.

B. Courses, exams and further education

7. (1) **Courses** are generally held in attendance form. Access to these courses is permitted to those persons who have a valid vaccination, recovery or test certificate (3G). Clause 8A remains reserved.
 (2) As usual, teaching materials are provided and/or designated for all courses. In the case of distance learning, they will be adapted accordingly as required.
- 7A. Only persons who have a valid vaccination, convalescence or test certificate are also admitted to the **other classroom events as well as activities in classroom form** in the field of teaching and research (e.g. excursions for teaching and/or research purposes, practical work, laboratory activities) (3G).
8. For the **examinations**, [the guidelines of the Rectorate of 12 October 2020](#) for the conduct of examinations and other certificates of achievement to be provided are authoritative. Details can be found on the websites of the faculties [SciMed](#), [Lettres](#), [IUS](#), [THEO](#), [SES](#). Due to current Federal Council directives, access to the exams in face-to-face mode is reserved for persons with a valid vaccination, convalescence or test certificate (3G). The premises in which the examinations take place may in principle only be filled to a maximum of two-thirds of their capacity.
- 8A. Subject to the provisions of higher-level law, the Rector may, if necessary with the prior consent of the Dean of the Faculty concerned, **grant exemptions from the vaccination, convalescence or test certificate requirement** for important reasons for events and activities within the meaning of Clauses 7 and 7A. In this case, the premises in question may be filled to no more than two-thirds of their capacity.
9. Access to continuing education activities is reserved for persons with a valid vaccination or convalescence certificate (2G). Clause 7, paragraph 2, applies in principle mutatis mutandis. Access to examinations in face-to-face form in the area of continuing education is only permitted to those persons who hold a valid vaccination, convalescence or test certificate (3G).
10. *[Repealed]*

C. Personnel and research

11. **Teleworking is obligatory** if the nature of the activity permits it and if it can be implemented with a reasonable amount of effort. The direct superiors/responsible persons of the organisational units define for their subordinates the form in which the activities are to be carried out (teleworking or presence on site), in compliance with the health protection measures. Employees who are particularly at risk (supported by a medical certificate on request) perform their work at home.
12. It is the responsibility of the supervisors / managers or heads of units / groups to draw up attendance and **prevention plans** for their own staff and other persons (especially students), for which they are responsible and which comply with the general requirements (cf. A.).

D. Special offers

I. Libraries and reading rooms

13. The activities and services of the libraries, which require a stay on the premises of the libraries, are reserved for those persons who have a valid vaccination, convalescence or test certificate (3G). For detailed and up-to-date information, please visit the [library portal](#). The public reading rooms are also reserved exclusively for persons with a vaccination, convalescence or test certificate.

II. public counters

14. The counters of the university are generally open, although the opening hours can be adjusted. Please refer to the respective websites for the current status and opening hours.

III. university restaurants

15. Persons aged 16 and over are only permitted access to university restaurants and cafeterias if they have a valid vaccination or convalescence certificate (2G). Seating is compulsory. For [detailed information on opening hours](#), please consult the website of the refectories.

IV. Other catering

16. **Apéritifs** and **coffee breaks inside the buildings** may only be held in the university restaurants and cafeterias in compliance with the requirements of Clause 15.
17. **Apéritifs** and **coffee breaks in the outdoor area** may be organised with a maximum of 100 people. However, the hygiene measures and the minimum distance rules (cf. A.) must be observed.

17A. *[Repealed]*

V. University sports

18. Information on the offer of the **University Sports** Office can be found on the University Sports [website](#). The corresponding offer is reserved for those persons who have a valid vaccination or convalescence certificate (2G). Effective ventilation must be available for indoor activities. If an activity does not require the wearing of masks, the organiser of the activity must collect the contact details of the participants; in this case, the persons concerned must also have a test certificate (2G+), unless their vaccination or convalescence certificate has been valid for less than 120 days.
19. Information on the opening of the university **fitness rooms** can also be found on the University Sport [website](#). Access to the fitness rooms is only permitted to those persons who have a valid vaccination or convalescence certificate and who have registered in advance with the University Sports Office for the training period. Masks must be worn in the fitness rooms.
- 19A. Subject to the provisions of higher-level law, the Rector may, if necessary with the prior consent of the Dean of the Faculty concerned, grant exemptions from the vaccination, convalescence or test certificate requirement pursuant to Clauses 13, 15, 18 and 19 for important reasons.

E. Internal meetings and events at the university

20. For **outdoor** meetings or events in face-to-face format, certification is compulsory (at least 3G). Organisers of outdoor face-to-face meetings or events with fewer than 300 people may order that people who do not have a valid vaccination, convalescence or testing certificate may also attend. This does not apply to dance events.
Less restrictive regulations of the Federal Council or the Council of State remain reserved.
21. (1) Internal meetings shall be held online as far as possible.
(1a) *[Repealed]*
(2) In principle, only persons who have a valid vaccination or convalescence certificate may participate in internal meetings or events in face-to-face form **indoors** (2G). Their organisers shall ensure that persons who do not have a corresponding certificate can participate online.
(3) The organisers of internal meetings of university bodies held indoors may, in **exceptional cases**, order that persons who do not have a valid vaccination, convalescence or test certificate may also attend them in presence form. Where appropriate, the premises concerned may be filled to no more than two-thirds of their capacity. In addition, seating is compulsory (where possible, one seat must be kept free next to each two occupied seats or an equivalent distance must be maintained between the seats). The organisers must also collect the contact details of all persons present.
22. Clause 20 applies mutatis mutandis to occasions / events in which **external persons** participate. At occasions / events in presence form indoors, in which only external or external persons and members of the university community participate, all participants must have a valid vaccination or convalescence certificate (2 G).
External persons are not permitted to attend diploma and doctoral ceremonies and similar events held in the university buildings.
23. *[Repealed]*

F. Travel

24. With regard to business trips, it is recommended that they be **limited** wherever possible and that they otherwise be guided by the [guidelines and recommendations of](#) the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (FDFA).

G. Hygiene and movements on the university campus

25. The Equipment and Logistics Service (SELOG) ensures **appropriate hygiene and cleaning measures** (provision of disinfectants, regular cleaning and disinfection, adequate signs, etc.) and implements a corresponding concept.
26. The Equipment and Logistics Service (SELOG) takes appropriate measures to ensure **orderly and distanced public traffic** on the university campus and implements a corresponding concept (separate entrances and exits, signalling, etc.).
27. *[Repealed]*

28. All members of the university community and all visitors to the university buildings shall **observe the posted signals** and notices (e.g. with regard to **regular ventilation of the premises**).
29. The **university buildings** are open during **normal opening hours**. This is subject to a decision to the contrary if the situation so requires.

H. Prevention and information

30. The Rectorate (in particular the Health and Safety Unit in cooperation with Unicom), in close consultation with the faculties and the corporate bodies, shall ensure that appropriate measures are taken to **prevent, raise awareness of and inform** university staff, in particular as far as the rules of hygiene and conduct are concerned.

I. Competent body

31. **The Rectorate**, supported by the Health and Safety Unit (sante@unifr.ch), is in charge of the prevention and protection measures related to COVID-19.

J. Entry into force and duration

32. These Guidelines shall enter into force on 2 November 2020.
33. They shall apply until revoked and may be amended or modified as necessary (last amended on 4 November 2020 [paras. 5, 11, 19 and 20], on 11. January 2021 [paras. 4, and 15, 17, 18], on 15 January 2021 [paras. 4, 11, 14, 20 and 29], on 25 January 2021 [repeal of para. 10], on 25 February 2021 [paras. 15 and 29], on 19 March 2021 [paras. 7 and 20], on 16 April 2021 [paras. 4, 7, 18, 19 and 20], on 27. May 2021 [paras. 7, 8 and 20], on 31 May 2021 [paras. 7A and 16], on 28 June 2021 [paras. 4, 6, 7, 8, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24], on 18. August 2021 [paras. 5, 7, 7A, 9, 16, 17 and 27], on 10 September 2021 [para. 15, entered into force on 13 September 2021], on 13 September 2021 [paras. 1, 4, 6, 6A, 6B, 6C, 7, 7A, 8, 8A, 9, 13, 15, 17A, 18, 19, 19A, 20, 21], on 27 September 2021 [paras. 16, 17A, 21(1a), 22], on 4. December 2021 [paras. 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 14, 16, 17, 17A, 18, 19, 20, 21], 18 December 2021 [paras. 4, 6, 6A, 6B, 7, 7A, 8, 8A, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 19A, 20, 21, 22] and on 17 January 2022 [para. 22]).
34. The guidelines of the Rectorate of 12 October 2020 (as of 18 October 2020) on prevention and a protection concept with a view to minimising the risk of transmission of COVID-19 are repealed by these guidelines.

Freiburg, the 29 . October 2020 / 4 November 2020 / 11. January 2021 / 15 January 2021 / January 25. 2021 / 25. February 2021 / 19 March 2021 / 16 April 2021 / 27 May 2021 / 31 May 2021 / 28 June 2021 / 18. August 2021 / 10 September 2021 / 13 September 2021 / 27 September 2021 / December 4. 2021 / 18 December 2021 / 17 January 2022

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