

Hygiene Framework of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Dated 1 October 2020

As amended on 21 March 2022, valid from 21 March 2022

Recent changes are highlighted

This Hygiene Framework is based on the Coronavirus Prevention Ordinance of North Rhine-Westphalia (*CoronaSchVO*), valid from 19 March 2022, as well as the Infectious Disease Prevention Act (*Infektionsschutzgesetz*) and the SARS-CoV-2 Occupational Safety Ordinance (*Corona-ArbSchV*).

Planning for and implementation of academic operations must take the current state of the pandemic into account and make use of the many insights and experiences gathered thus far.

The Hygiene Framework contains both mandatory guidelines and helpful recommendations offering the best possible protection to prevent or slow the spread of SARS-CoV-2 at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. The Hygiene Framework is intended to *complement*, not supersede, other pandemic-related legislation currently in effect in Germany.

Summer semester 2022 is planned to commence as a true in-person semester with a full return to both campuses. Nevertheless, due to the dynamic nature of the pandemic we must be prepared for the possibility that rapid adjustments may still be necessary to react to both an evolving situation as well as amendments to prevailing legal guidelines. Social distancing and general good hygiene guidelines also remain important tools for preventing the spread of SARS-CoV-2.

1. General guidelines for preventing the spread of disease (Annex 1)

- a. All persons wishing to participate in events as defined by the Coronavirus Prevention Ordinance must have valid proof of 3G status before entering the facility. 3G documents must always be presented together with an official form of photo identification to the responsible university employee or their representative. Please follow the 3G guidelines outlined in Annex 2.
- b. A medical-grade mask must be worn at all times in buildings and enclosed spaces on campus. FFP2 masks are strongly recommended, as proper use will largely protect the wearer from infection. Masks must be worn in all cases except when the wearer is in his or her designated work area, provided a minimum distance of 1.5 metres to others can be maintained at all times. Note: this does not apply to courses taught in-person! Here, a medical-grade or FFP2 mask must be worn at all times regardless of the distance between individual participants. Only teachers and presenters, provided they are not moving about the room and can maintain a minimum distance of 1.5 m to others at all

times, are exempt from this rule. In summary, the following exemptions to the FFP2 mask requirement apply, but only if necessary hygiene guidelines (e.g. minimum distancing or, alternatively, separation by partition) are also adhered to:

- presenters or teachers while giving a presentation or teaching,
 - employees at their own desk,
 - participants in committee meetings or other official meetings. Wearing a mask outdoors on campus is not required. However, masks are still recommended outdoors to mitigate potential risk of infection posed by large groups of people in close proximity to one another.
- c. Students are advised to avoid close personal contact with anyone showing typical symptoms of a SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- d. Maintain a general distance of at least 1.5 m from others.
- e. General hygiene guidelines (distancing, hand washing, use of contact tracing apps) should be followed at all times.
- f. Regular testing is recommended for vaccinated persons as well. Employees in both Kleve and Kamp-Lintfort have regular testing opportunities on campus.

2. Mandatory hygiene rules while on campus at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

- a. Due to the expected numbers of students and visitors to campus, sufficient opportunities for washing and/or disinfecting hands must be provided.
- b. Cleaning schedules shall be adjusted according to infection prevention guidelines.
- c. Devices should be disinfected after use.
- d. Work clothes should not be shared with others.
- e. Guidelines for preventing the spread of disease shall be posted near sanitary facilities and building entrances. Please follow these guidelines.
- f. Rooms without climate controls must be aired out in regular intervals.
- g. Rooms can be booked and used according to their regular operating capacity (see annex 3). Maximum room capacity is also posted in each room.
- h. However, reductions in capacity are possible in order to ensure minimum distancing between participants, particularly where required due to teaching format or the current state of the pandemic. (Refer to the separate room capacity list.)

3. Other rules

- a. Each area of the University is tasked with communicating and implementing these infection prevention rules for their area. In special areas (i.e. University Library, Sports and Music), custom concepts based on legal ordinances currently in affect shall apply.
- b. Non-compliance with any of the aforementioned rules can lead to sanctions and may represent an administrative offence according to **Section 8 of the Coronavirus Prevention Ordinance (CoronaSchVO NRW)**.

Annex

1. Rules for conduct in a pandemic
2. Guidelines for tested, vaccinated and recovered individuals ("3G" policy)
3. Room capacity list