

Hygiene Framework of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

Originally dated 1 October 2020

As amended on **24 August 2021**

This Hygiene Framework is based on the Coronavirus Protection Ordinance of North Rhine-Westphalia (*CoronaSchVO*), valid from 20 August 2021, as well as the Infectious Disease Protection Act and the SARS-CoV-2 Work Safety Ordinance (*Corona-ArbSchV*).

Planning for and implementation of university operations must always take into account the current state of the pandemic and make full use of insights and know-how gathered thus far.

The updated 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 while still permitting a necessary degree of operations. The Hygiene Framework is intended to *complement*, not supersede, other pandemic-related legislation currently in effect in Germany.

The upcoming winter semester 2021-22 must be implemented in a way that allows in-person teaching and examinations, but restricts the sizes of groups in campus buildings to an extent that allows social distancing and hygiene guidelines to be followed at all times. A full and complete return to in-person teaching will not occur in winter semester 2021-22.

1. General guidelines for preventing the spread of disease

- a. Participating in in-person teaching and examinations requires a recent negative test, full vaccination or proof of recovery from SARS-CoV-2 (the “3G” approach). Documents must be supplemented with an official form of photo identification and presented to the responsible university employee. Please follow the 3G guidelines outlined in Annex 2.
- b. Students are advised to avoid close personal contact with anyone demonstrating typical symptoms of a SARS-CoV-2 infection.
- c. Maintain a general distance of at least 1.5 m from others.
- d. Wearing a mask outdoors on campus is not required. However, masks are required at all times while inside a campus building. Only the following exceptions apply under the stipulation that all necessary hygiene measures can be observed (e.g. 1.5 m distance to others, or separation by glass partition):
 - instructors giving a lecture,
 - employees at their own desk,
 - During committee sessions or other meetings, provided all participants are vaccinated or have tested negative.
- e. General hygiene rules must be followed at all times: social distancing, hand washing, masks, sufficient ventilation and use of a contact-tracing app.

- f. Regular testing is recommended for vaccinated persons as well. Employees at both campuses will have access to regular testing opportunities until further notice.

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

- a. Due to the expected numbers of students and visitors to the University, sufficient opportunities for hand washing and disinfecting must be provided.
- b. Cleaning schedules must be adjusted according to infection protection guidelines.
- c. Devices should be disinfected after use.
- d. Work clothes should not be shared with others.
- e. Follow the rules for preventing the spread of disease posted near sanitary facilities and building entrances.
- f. Ventilate closed spaces regularly and often.
- g. Do not exceed maximum occupancy (refer to annex 3 or posted signs).

3. Other rules

- a. Each section of the University is tasked with communicating and upholding these infection protection rules and guidelines for their area. In special sections, i.e. University Library, Sports, Music, custom concepts will be developed based on these guidelines.
- b. Unvaccinated staff members who have not been to campus for at least five days due to holiday or other reason for absence must provide an official negative test result on their first day back in the office. Tests must be no older than 48 hours. For employees working from home, this rule only applies to the first day of working on campus again.
- c. Non-compliance with any of the aforementioned rules can lead to sanctions and may represent an administrative offence according to Section 4 (2) sentence 1, in connection with Section 6, CoronaSchVO NRW.

Annex

1. Rules for preventing the spread of disease
2. Guidelines for tested, vaccinated and recovered individuals ("3G" policy)
3. Maximum occupancies for rooms on campus