GGG-based entry restrictions and verification at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences

30 September 2021

Indoor events at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences are restricted to those immunised against Covid-19 or who have a recent negative test.

Proof of immunisation or test results must be verified at least on a random basis before participants may access buildings or participate in indoor events held on campus.

Reasons and justification

The Coronavirus Protection Ordinance (German abbreviation: *CoronaSchVO*) of North Rhine-Westphalia decrees that in-person events, including public gatherings within the meaning of Article 8 of the Basic Law as well as events held indoors at education institutions, must be restricted to immunised or tested persons only (refer to § 4 (2) no. 1 CoronaSchVO).

Proof of immunisation or a recent test must be shown and verified.

In particular, said proof or test results must be verified at least on a random basis by the persons responsible for the event (or designated representatives) before access to buildings or the event is granted. As a result, persons wishing to attend an indoor event must provide both proof of GGG status as well as an official form of government ID, and both documents must be shown to the verifying person upon request (refer to § 4 (5) CoronaSchVO).

Any person who does not display the necessary proof of GGG status and their photo ID must be excluded from the event (refer to § 4 (5) CoronaSchVO).

Events

An event within the meaning of the ordinance is defined as "a temporally or locally limited occurrence with a predefined goal or intention and a responsible organiser, which is open to a specific group of people who participate either as contributors or attendees" (refer to § 2 (9) CoronaSchVO).

Access to events held indoors at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences and which are open to the public must be restricted to immunised persons and employees only. An event is considered "open to the public" when the university public or the public at-large cannot be excluded from it.

Thus "indoor events" at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences include, in particular:
- in-person teaching sessions
- in-person examinations
- events related to research projects
- official meetings with external participants
- events and gatherings related to University Sports and Music, provided they are open to the public
- committee sessions, provided they are open to the public
- events organised or hosted by external parties

Access restrictions

Indoor events are restricted to persons who are immunised or with a recent negative test. This applies to both attendees and event organisers (refer to § 4 (2) no. 1 CoronaSchVO). Access to buildings where in-person teaching sessions or examinations are being held cannot be granted without proper GGG status (refer to § 8 (1) sent. 2 Coronavirus Epidemic Ordinance for Universities).

To simplify the verification process, building access will be restricted to the following areas. Adjacent buildings can be accessed via connected walkways and bridges.

Kleve Campus	Building access points:
Building 1	1
Building 3	2+3
Building 2a	2a
Building 5	5-9
Building 10	10-13

Kamp-Lintfort Campus	Building access points:
Building 1	1
Building 2	2+3

Access to all other buildings, building sections, and rooms is restricted if in-person events are being held there. In Kleve, access is also restricted to buildings 18 (library) and 20 (Herzogstrasse) on the basis of the CoronaSchVO. Buildings not listed above are generally accessible without additional verification.

Restrictions apply equally to all status groups at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. Accordingly, all persons wishing to attend, lead or support an indoor event at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences must provide proof of immunisation or a recent negative test.

Duty and responsibility to verify

In accordance with § 4 CoronaSchVO NRW, the person responsible for an event or his/her designated representative is obliged to verify participants' GGG status at least on a random basis beforehand. For in-person teaching and examinations, this responsibility falls to the instructor or the examiner. For all other in-person events, the inviting person is considered responsible for verifying GGG status of attendees.

Centrally organised verification by personnel from other areas of the University

Notwithstanding the aforementioned responsibilities, GGG status verification for in-person teaching and examinations will be centrally supported in order to relieve event organisers as best as possible.

Verification points will be set up at access points to buildings used predominately for teaching and examinations. Here, occupational safety personnel will verify visitors' proof of GGG status. Visitors must show their proof of status and photo ID immediately.

In addition to checks at building access points, random checks will be conducted within buildings by staff and external service providers.

Beyond these checks, event organisers reserve the right to also check event attendees' proof of GGG status on a random basis.

Acceptable proof of GGG status

To verify compliance with the GGG rules, the following forms of proof are acceptable (refer also to the Guidelines for tested, vaccinated and recovered individuals ("3G" policy)):

a. **Tested individuals** must have a negative rapid antigen test from an official test centre. Printed and digital test results are accepted. Test results must be no older than 48 hours (CoronaSchVO NRW).

b. Recovered individuals must have a positive PCR test. Test results must be at least 28 days old, but no older than six months. "Recovered" status expires after six months, meaning a negative antigen test or vaccination is then required.

   Recovered vaccinated individuals are considered fully vaccinated after their first vaccine dose. They must have a positive PCR test from at least 28 days ago, but in this case tests may be older than six months. In addition, they must also have proof – a vaccination card, for example – that they received at least one dose of an approved SARS-CoV-2 vaccine two or more weeks ago.

c. Vaccinated individuals must be fully vaccinated against SARS-CoV-2 and have received their final vaccine dose at least 14 days prior. Proof of vaccination can be printed or digital. Furthermore, proof of vaccination against SARS-CoV-2 can be in German, English, French, Italian or Spanish and shown in an appropriate, official app (CoVPass, Corona Warn App etc.)

   Individuals are considered fully vaccinated if: Individuals receiving a two-dose vaccine (e.g. Biontech/Pfizer, Moderna, Astrazeneca) must have had their second dose to be considered fully vaccinated. Only vaccines explicitly named by the Paul Ehrlich Institute are accepted: www.pei.de/impfstoffe/covid-19

You are considered immunised if you are fully vaccinated, recovered or recovered/vaccinated.

In addition to your proof of GGG status, you must carry with you and show upon request an official form of ID for identity verification purposes.

Steps of the verification process

- <u>In-person teaching and examinations</u>

<u>Students</u> wishing to enter buildings used primarily for in-person teaching and examinations must proceed to the nearest <u>central access point</u>. These verification points are staffed by university employees who will check students' proof of GGG and ID on a random basis.

Kleve Campus	Building access points:
Building 1	1
Building 3	2+3
Building 2a	2a
Building 5	5-9
Building 10	10-13

Kamp-Lintfort Campus	Building access points:
Building 1	1
Building 2	2+3

<u>Employees</u> wishing to attend, lead or support in-person teaching and examinations at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences must report their GGG status beforehand in accordance with the official instructions of the president and chancellor dated 22 September 2021:

- deans must report to the president,
- professors, academic and non-academic faculty staff must report to their responsible dean or his/her designated representative,
- sessional lecturers must report to their dean,
- academic staff in central units must report to their line managers (*Fachvorgesetzte/r*),
- non-academic staff in central units must report to their line managers (*Fachvorgesetzte/r*).

This applies to instructors, teaching assistants and other active participants (e.g. invigilators).

Employees can access restricted buildings via their assigned key fob. If employees do not have access rights to a building via their key fob, they can enter through a central access point without additional verification by referring to their employee status, if necessary.

- Other events

For all other events, i.e. other than in-person teaching sessions or examinations, a decentrally organised verification process for attendees must be arranged before entry. In accordance with the official instructions of the president and chancellor dated 22 September 2021, this means for employees:

- the person responsible for the event must report to their top-level manager (*Dienstvorgesetzte/r*).
- All other staff must report to the person or team responsible for the event.

The verification process must be organised and conducted by the event organisers themselves. Central support for the verification process can be requested by contacting the occupational safety team, ideally with at least 5 days' notice: arbeitssicherheit@hochschule-rhein-waal.de.

- Digital verification via the CovPassCheck app

GGG status can be verified "traditionally" (i.e. face-to-face) or electronically using the CovPassCheck app. This app simplifies the verification process by allowing you to verify the validity of a GGG-related certificate via quick scan. Staff responsible for verifying GGG status should download and install the app on their personal smartphone beforehand. The app is free and available in the App Store, Google Play and AppGallery. It was developed by the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) and funded by the German government. No personal data is stored when using CovPassCheck. For more information about the app, its usage and data privacy concerns, please refer to the following website:

CovPassCheck-App: Quickly verify digital COVID certificates issued in the EU https://www.digitaler-impfnachweis-app.de/en/

As compensation for the use of a personal smartphone in an official work capacity, staff can request a power bank from the University.

- Fast-track verification

All HSRW students and staff can request a security wristband with the HSRW logo if they are fully immunised against Covid-19 (either through a full vaccination course, recovered status, or recovered in connection with Covid-19 vaccination). Students can obtain wristbands via a central registration system in the campus test centres (Kleve: building 5a; Kamp-Lintfort:

building 4). In addition to presenting proof of GGG status, requesting persons must also sign a consent form to confirm they are voluntarily requesting a wristband.

Wristbands allow you to participate in all in-person events without displaying proof of GGG status each time. Verification points will have specially marked fast lanes set up exclusively for wristband wearers to raise their hands and enter. Wristbands are securely fastened to arms and cannot be removed without destroying them. Thus they cannot be given to unverified third parties.

This fast-track verification process is open to every status group at Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. Wristbands can be requested in the campus test centres every Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 07:00-10:00. Please note that waiting times can occur due to demand. Staff members can obtain wrist bands from the person to whom they must report their GGG status for teaching and examinations (refer to the official instructions from the president and chancellor dated 22 September 2021). Wristbands can also be obtained from your top-level manager (*Dienstvorgesetzte/r*).

Consent forms will be archived by the occupational safety team and destroyed upon expiry of the validity period of the wristbands, i.e. by 28 February 2022 at the latest.

Recovered individuals must present a positive PCR test result. Test results must be at least 28 days old, but no older than six months. This status expires after six months. Thus recovered individuals cannot receive a security wristband unless their test results are valid until at least 28 February 2022.

General information

Notices about access restrictions and GGG requirements will be posted in various forms within the University. For example, AStA will assist with informing students, notifications will be posted on campus, and posts will be made in social media and on our homepage. Nevertheless, we strongly recommend that you explicitly refer to the GGG requirements when inviting students to in-person events as well as before each event.

Both instructors and students are requested to arrive at campus early to account for any delays at central access points. We recommend arriving at the access point at least 15 minutes before the event is scheduled to begin so no instruction time is lost for GGG verification.

Please note that entering restricted buildings without GGG verification constitutes a misdemeanour and is subject to civil penalties. In the event of unauthorised building access or refusal to comply with the instructions of verifying personnel, access to the building in question

will be shut down until the matter is resolved. University administration reserves the right to take legal action in this case.

Validity

Notwithstanding the possibility of amendments to its underlying legal framework, these GGG-based entry restrictions and verification rules are valid initially until 28 February 2022.