

Hygiene Framework of Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences, 1 October 2020

As amended on **1 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 **28 February 2022**, as well as the Infectious Disease Prevention Act (*Infektionsschutzgesetz*) and the Occupational Safety Ordinance for SARS-CoV-2 (*Corona-SARS-CoV2-ArbSchV*).

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

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

Summer semester 2022 is planned to start as a true in-person semester with a full return to both campuses. Nevertheless, we must be prepared for the possibility of rapid changes to this approach due to the dynamic nature of the pandemic and amendments to the legislative frameworks we are operating under. Social distancing and general hygiene rules also remain important tools for preventing the spread of SARS-CoV-2.

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

- a. Entering university buildings requires valid proof of 3G status. This applies to all persons defined in the Coronavirus Prevention Ordinance. Documents proving 3G status must always be presented together with an official form of photo identification to the responsible university employee or their appointed representative. Please follow the 3G guidelines outlined in Annex 2.
- b. **A FFP2 mask must be worn at all times in buildings and enclosed spaces. Masks can be removed at designated seating or standing areas, provided a minimum distance of 1.5 meters to others is maintained at all times. Important: this exception does not apply to in-person instruction! Here, FFP2 masks must be worn at all times and by all participants regardless of distancing. Only teachers and presenters, provided they maintain the minimum distance to others and do not move about the room, are excluded from this rule. Thus, 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,

- anyone taking part in a committee session or other meeting, provided they are vaccinated or have a negative test result. Masks are not required in outdoor areas on campus. **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 shall 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. **Non-climate controlled rooms** 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. (See room capacity list for more details.)**

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), individual concepts based on the legal frameworks currently in affect shall remain in use.
- b. Unvaccinated staff members who have not been on campus for at least five days due to holiday or for other reason must have a negative test result on their first day back before returning to the office. Validity of tests depends on the current provisions of the Coronavirus Prevention Ordinance. 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 conduct in a pandemic
2. Guidelines for tested, vaccinated and recovered individuals ("3G" policy)
3. Room capacity list