



Universität Heidelberg, Seminarstraße 2, 69117 Heidelberg

To all staff members of  
Heidelberg University

Circular No. 19

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**Winter semester on campus**

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Dear staff members and colleagues,

With respect to plans for the coming winter semester, I write to inform you of the Rectorate's discussions and decisions at its last meeting on 28 July 2021. The topics were the following:

**On-campus lectures/classes in the area of Student Affairs and Teaching**

The plan is, as far as possible, for all lectures and classes to take place with participants being physically present on campus. The Rectorate requests all faculties and institutions to implement this as best as they can.

While the Coronavirus Ordinances will be somewhat amended in the coming weeks, the currently valid Coronavirus Ordinance on Degree-related Operations already outlines the planning basis for the upcoming winter semester as Minister Bauer has explained. Allow me once again to summarise the present legal framework in which lectures and examinations will be possible on campus.

According to the Coronavirus Ordinance, the following applies during every lecture and class:

Keeping the 1.5 metre distance throughout → no GGG obligation, no mandatory mask need be worn while seated.

If participants are closer than the minimum distance → GGG requirement, masks must be worn throughout.

The admissible number of participants depends on the size or occupational capacity of the hall or room. If masks are obligatory throughout and the GGG principles are followed, larger halls may be occupied up to 75% of their capacity or, in the event of a 7-day-incidence over 50, up to 60%. If you have questions on this matter, the [Occupational Safety Department](#) can, as usual, advise you.

Example - Lecture Hall 01, New University, with a maximum capacity of 154 attendees:

- If all respect the minimum distance: no obligation to wear a mask when seated, no GGG obligation, occupation by up to 12 people.

- If participants are seated closer than minimum distance: they must all wear a mask throughout and the GGG obligation prevails, occupation by up to 115.

If incidence values exceed 100, further restrictions will take effect about which you will be informed separately and as soon as possible.

As of now, a special relaxation of restrictions applies for on-campus examinations. In this case, participants need not to wear a mask at their place, even if they do not observe the required distance; however the GGG obligation continues to apply. The ministry is still clarifying whether possible relaxations can be introduced regarding GGG implementation, e.g. by means of technical support or random checks. Until then, it remains obligatory to screen everybody's GGG documentation. For reasons of privacy law, no written record will be made of the verification, nor will the data be saved in any way. As soon as this important question receives a reply, you will be informed.

In addition, it remains necessary to comply with the still applicable hygiene rules, particularly regarding a reliable ventilation system in the halls and classrooms, and with the ongoing requirement to collect personal contact details.

The current arrangements for all university events apart from Student Affairs and Teaching can be consulted in [an up-to-date overview](#) on our coronavirus website.

#### **In-person advice and services for students**

Advice and services for students are to resume in person. Examination Offices should also be available for students to visit in person, particularly in view of the many examinations due to take place at present.

#### **Opening of university buildings**

The university buildings should be open to all its members and associates, particularly for students, and for a large number of other groups of persons. Hence the Rectorate asks to generally keep the buildings open at the usual times, unless local circumstances make this difficult.

#### **Vaccination against coronavirus**

Since we are moving back into physical presence on campus and the opportunities for cost-free antigen rapid tests in Germany are likely to be reduced in the foreseeable future, the Rectorate again strongly recommends taking up one of the many offers of vaccination against Covid-19.

Our Coronavirus Service Portal is still available for concerns around this topic:

Tel.: +49 6221-54-19191      Email: [service.corona@uni-heidelberg.de](mailto:service.corona@uni-heidelberg.de)

The rules will be adapted again when we have the additional legal basis for doing so. Please bear with us in this regard.

Best wishes and stay healthy!



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