



Universität Heidelberg, Seminarstraße 2, 69117 Heidelberg

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Implementing the new Corona Ordinances

Dr. Holger Schroeter

Tel. +49 6221 54-12000

Fax +49 6221 54-12029

kanzler@uni-heidelberg.de

Dear members of the university,

The State of Baden-Württemberg has declared that the pandemic has reached level 3. Consequently, and based on the amended version of the general Corona Ordinance, valid as of 19 October 2020, as well as the Corona Ordinance on Degree-related Operations and the Arts, the Rectorate decided at its last meeting to adapt and supplement the existing coronavirus regulations for Heidelberg University. In an intensive process it weighed up the issues in order to find a safe solution for the university under the current general conditions.

Here is a summary of the most important changes and related central activities for your information. If further changes arise I will update you without delay.

Expanding the obligation to wear a mask

Going beyond the existing obligation to wear a mask protecting the mouth and nose in corridors and places of circulation in all university buildings, the current Corona Ordinance of the State of Baden-Württemberg imposes the obligation to wear a mask in all areas open to the public.

Students must now wear a mask throughout all their lectures and classes, also when seated and contributing to the discussion. Lecturers are exempted from this requirement as long as they are far enough away from the students and the hygiene plan is respected.

Limit on participants at events and gatherings

The attendance at events may not exceed up to 100 participants. All other existing coronavirus-related regulations remain unchanged, e.g. following hygiene rules, keeping a due distance and wearing a mask, as well as recording contact details. Doctoral graduation ceremonies and similar events are still permitted, but may only be attended by members of the university and persons institutionally connected by cooperation agreements.

A maximum of 10 persons may gather or congregate spontaneously.

Use of university buildings

University buildings and facilities are as of now, and until further notice, not open to the public. Similar to our approach last May, they are only accessible to members of the university, visiting researchers as well as academic or scientific members of partner institutions. This means that e.g. museums, collections and facilities like the university archive or greenhouses of the Botanical Garden are or remain closed to the public.

In addition, according to the new Corona Ordinance on Degree-related Operations and the Arts, university buildings may only be used for university purposes. External events are not permitted.

Risk areas within Germany

At present there are no restrictions in the State of Baden-Württemberg on travel, commuting, excursions or similar journeys within the country. It is therefore still up to the travellers, management staff or tour operators, to make a responsible risk assessment of the travel plan and to decide according to the circumstances. However, the general and local requirements of the coronavirus regulations must be respected at all times.

Collecting contact details

As announced in the last circular, electronic instruments are being provided for the coronavirus-related recording of contact details. Most probably by the start of lectures in the upcoming winter semester, the centrally administered lecture halls and seminar rooms in the Old Town and Neuenheimer Feld will be equipped with built-in QR code-scanners; the appropriate software will likewise be provided. The electronic depositing of event details will take place centrally and the relevant procedure for using the recording system will be communicated close to the time. In the case of events in the remaining premises and in all other areas in which data collection is required, the existing documents and forms will continue to be used for the time being. They are still available to you on the university website:

[Newsroom – Information about coronavirus](#)

In this connection, together with the public health department, work is currently underway to define communication channels that will guarantee a rapid transmission of contact details to the authority if a member of staff or a student becomes infected. This also applies to the contacting of all persons concerned without delay. In this matter too, we will inform you of further procedures as soon as possible.

For any questions or concerns about the coronavirus issue you are welcome, besides using the familiar channels of communication, to contact our Corona Service Portal at:

Tel: 06221 54-19191

Email: service.corona@uni-heidelberg.de

With best wishes and stay healthy,



Dr. Holger Schroeter