

Coronavirus Update | Current Information Email to Students of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, Monday, November 22nd 2021

Dear Students,

The situation in Germany is strained and of course, we are worried about current developments regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.

The federal government has passed a new law that regulates our options to deal with the situation and the state government in Hannover is working on new regulations as well. These regulations should be published today.

We feel that despite the latest developments, our hygienic concept is robust and allows us to continue teaching face-to-face classes. The quota of persons who have been vaccinated at our university is very high and those who haven't been fully vaccinated, yet, must present a negative test in order to participate in classes.

Some regulations, though, must be reinforced in order to conclude this winter semester safely. And all members of the university, whether students or staff, must help. So please read this newsletter as an appeal to you, to abide by all those rules. In addition, we ask you to remind others of the rules should they seem to not take them seriously.

Respecting Hygienic Standards and Regulations on Campus!

When on the premises of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences, you are obligated to respect the 3G-regulations under all circumstances. In order to participate in classes or when using the library, all students must have proof that they

- have been fully vaccinated,
- have fully recovered from a COVID-19 infection within the past 6 months or
- have been tested negatively.

Students and teachers alike must use the controlled entrances into the buildings.

Under no circumstances should you access the buildings through any side entrances when attending classes or (lab) internships. By doing so, you will put all others at risk!

While inside the university buildings, **hygienic masks covering your face and mouth must be worn at all times.** If possible, you are obligated to keep a distance of at least 1.5 meters from everybody else. We appeal to all of you to make sure that masks are worn by everybody at all times inside the buildings.

Especially in classes and seminars, wearing a hygienic mask is now obligatory.

Lecturers who witness violations of these rules during, before or after their classes are entitled to repel students from their classes as well as from the university premises if violations continue despite a reminder.

You can always find all hygienic regulations of the university on the [corona website](#) in their current wording (in German). Please make sure to visit this website regularly.

Obligation to wear a mask on Lingen Campus

As of now, there is an obligation to wear a mask in the hall of Lingen Campus.

What should I do when I show symptoms of an illness or test positively?

If you have clear symptoms of a cold or a flu, etc., please make sure you consult a physician's advice before coming to campus. Should you be tested positively for COVID-19, please quarantine yourself at home and contact a physician, emergency medical services or an

official testing center nearby to take a PCR-test. Only this type of test can give you a reliable answer as to whether you are infected with COVID-19.

You do not need to alert the authorities if you have tested positively with an antigen selftest. However, if others perform an antigen selftest on you, e.g. at the university, they are obligated to report a positive result to the authorities. Also, follow-up PCR-tests, with both positive and negative results are always reported to the authorities. **Should you receive a positive result in a PCR-test, please report this information to our email address core@hs-osnabrueck.de**

What about contact tracing?

If we abide by all our regulations, the risk of infecting oneself with COVID-19 at the university is considerably small. At this moment, we have very few cases of even suspected cases.

The state of Lower Saxony has issued rules that we need to abide by. These rules do not provide for quarantining whole classes or seminar groups – as long as we abide by our hygienic regulations. Should there be cases, it will not be the university's call but that of the public health authorities.

We therefore remind you of your own responsibility. In case of doubt, please stay at home and take a PCR-test or at least an antigen selftest.

There is one exception: If you are travelling to the university in a car share and one person is tested positively, all persons involved must take a PCR-test before returning to campus.

Entrance Controls and Registration in Class

In order to access classes, you must prove your 3G-status at the entrances to the buildings and register in the classroom.

Using a fraud or expired vaccination document is regarded an administrative offence according to § 22 of the corona regulations for Lower Saxony. If you are caught using a fraud or expired vaccination document, you will face a substantial monetary penalty. Generally, everybody must follow the instructions of the guards when entering the buildings.

FAQs

To find up-to-date information regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, please see:

<https://www.niedersachsen.de/Coronavirus/antworten-auf-haufig-gestellte-fragen-faq-185463.html> (in German).

With best regards,
Your University Steering Committee