

## Infection protection concept of DIT

In accordance with § 7 of the 15th Bavarian Infection Protection Measures Ordinance (15. BalfSMV) and the framework concept for universities issued as a result of § 7 Para. 2 of the 15th BayIfSMV (Joint Announcement of the Bavarian State Ministries for Science and Art and for Health and Care of 3 December 2021, Ref. Z-V7300/121/144 and G54n-G8390-2020/4011-48), which was published on 03. 12.2021 in the Bavarian Ministerial Gazette, the Deggendorf University of Applied Sciences (THD) must develop and observe an individual infection protection concept specially adapted to university operations, taking into account all persons involved in university operations and observing the applicable legal situation.

This requirement is taken into account with the present **infection protection concept of DIT**. It pursues the goal of enabling face-to-face teaching and other university activities while protecting students and employees and contributing to the containment of the pandemic.

By publishing this infection protection concept on the intranet and sending it to the distribution lists of all DIT staff and students, as well as to the Fraunhofer project group located on campus and the facility management service provider Caverion, all members of DIT are comprehensively informed about it and expressly pointed out that it is binding. The faculties are obliged to pass on the infection protection concept to their respective lecturers and also to inform them of its binding nature. When using external companies on campus or granting access to external persons, the respective client or organiser is obliged to inform them about the infection protection concept and to document this accordingly.

All members of DIT must ensure that the infection control regulations, the related provisions, the associated occupational health and safety regulations and the infection protection concept are complied with in the areas for which they are responsible. This applies in particular to supervisors, chairpersons of meetings, examiners and lecturers. This also includes the responsibility to provide appropriate information within their own area of responsibility about the currently applicable rules on infection protection. DIT management will monitor compliance with the rules on infection protection on a random basis and take appropriate measures in the event of violations.

## **1. General safety and hygiene rules**

### **a) General requirements**

In general, the applicable infection control regulations (in particular the Bavarian Infection Control Measures Ordinance - BayIfSMV in its most recent form, COVID 19 Protective Measures Exemption Ordinance - SchAusnahmV) and occupational health and safety regulations (in particular the SARS CoV 2 Occupational Health and Safety Ordinance - Corona-ArbSchV) must be complied with and implemented.

The requirements of infection control law or occupational health and safety law in their most current form and, if applicable, the orders of the local authorities based on them may contain stricter regulations than the infection control concept of DIT. The university management will inform as soon as possible about any changes that have an impact on university operations.

### **b) Access to DIT**

In principle, only persons who are authorised to access closed rooms at DIT in accordance with the most recent version of the BayIfSMV have access.

Currently the following applies for students

- during lectures 3G (vaccinated, recovered or negative rapid or PCR test).
- for examinations 3G (vaccinated, recovered or negative rapid or PCR test).

Currently the following applies for employees

- 3G (vaccinated, recovered or negative rapid or PCR test).

#### **aa) Review of the access regulation for students**

According to point 2 of the Framework Concept for Higher Education Institutions, a check by means of structured and effective random sampling is permissible for students instead of a complete check of the evidence.

At DIT, the verification of the access regulation for students is designed as follows:

Compliance was checked at the Deggendorf teaching location during the first four weeks from the start of the semester by a commissioned security service, as this is the location with the highest number of students and fluctuation.

At the other teaching locations in Cham and Pfarrkirchen, the access regulation was checked from the beginning by their own staff, as there is a low fluctuation of students there and they do not change throughout the day.

This decentralised check of the access regulation was also extended to the Deggendorf location from the fifth week from the start of the semester.

In this way, the THD conducts structured and effective random checks that take into account the specifics of each location and ensure an appropriate control rate.

The number of checks carried out and their results (how many persons with which status) are reported weekly to the StMWK. Since 02.02.2022, the weekly reporting obligation to the StMWK has been suspended.

Within the scope of the verification, an inspection of the submitted proof with a subsequent plausibility check is sufficient. If there is any doubt about the identity of the person concerned, he or she must prove his or her identity by means of official identification documents so that the personal identity can also be checked. In case of suspicion of incorrectness or invalidity of the presented proof as well as in case of non-presentation of a proof, admission will be denied. Documentation of the relevant data of guests, visitors or users is not required in principle, with the exception of persons who fail to comply with the obligation to provide proof and who are reported to the Chancellor's Office by the persons carrying out the checks. The Chancellor's Office in turn reports such violations to the competent regulatory authority, which is responsible for deciding on sanctions in the form of a fine of up to EUR 250 and takes any further measures that may be necessary.

DIT students were informed in advance by email to the student address at the beginning of the semester about the access regulations and the consequences of non-compliance.

### **bb) Review of the access regulation for employees**

DIT is obliged to check the 3G status of its employees. Non-vaccinated employees must have negative proof of testing on each day of attendance. In agreement with the staff council, the following procedure was decided for the examination of the 3G status for all full-time and part-time employees of the DIT:

Principle: The review of the 3G status is carried out by the immediate superiors for their respective assigned employees. This regulation also applies to lecturers.

This means in concrete terms:

In the technology campuses (TC), the verification of evidence is carried out by the operational managers or a person appointed by them for all employees at the TC. The examination of the operational managers themselves is carried out by the overall operational manager.

In the administration and the central institutions, the audit is carried out by the respective superiors (heads of unit audit the employees, heads of department audit the heads of unit, chancellor audits the heads of department and the heads of the central institutions).

In the faculties, the examination is carried out by

1. laboratory directors for the directly assigned laboratory employees
2. deans or/and persons appointed by him/her for all full-time and part-time teaching staff and the dean's office.

Test verification for unvaccinated persons can be done by self-testing under supervision (employee tests provided free of charge). Supervision is also provided by immediate supervisors or persons appointed by them. This is a rapid antigen test under supervision as part of workplace testing. Supervision of the self-test can also be carried out via videoconference.

Other persons commissioned by the executives were registered by name in the Chancellor's Office.

Alternatively, test verification can be done by tests carried out at external test stations.

THD employees were informed in advance about the implementation of the 3G rule via email to the employee address.

### c) Exclusion from participation and stay

In principle, persons

- who show symptoms typical of an infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus (typical symptoms of an infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus are, for example, shortness of breath, new cough, fever and smell or taste), new-onset cough, fever and loss of smell or taste),
- who are subject to quarantine measures, or
- have been found to be currently infected with coronavirus SARS-CoV-2, do not participate in on-site university activities and do not enter DIT (buildings and other enclosed spaces). (buildings and other closed rooms). Appropriate notices have been posted at the key points of all DIT premises.

A person who develops symptoms typical of an infection with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus during his/her stay at DIT must immediately leave the university premises and the university

building and inform DIT. DIT shall immediately report the matter to the competent health authority, which, if necessary, shall take further measures (e.g. quarantine measures) in consultation with DIT, which shall be implemented by DIT according to the circumstances.

**d) Information and training**

Persons involved in DIT operations were informed by DIT about the correct use of medical face masks as well as about general hygiene regulations. In this respect, a guideline for mouth-nose coverings (Annex 1) was distributed to all persons involved in university operations.

In addition, DIT offers appropriate advice to university members through its occupational safety specialists. In coordination with the occupational safety specialists, a specific Corona risk assessment for DIT was prepared (Annex 2), which all supervisors must carry out for their employees.

**e) Dealing with positive cases in lectures**

After consultation with several health offices, DIT establishes the following basic procedure for dealing with positive cases in lectures:

The respective person who is reported to DIT as positive (whether by the person him/herself or by the health office) is informed that he/she must leave the university campus and wait at home for the order of the health office.

The respective faculty informs the respective study group and asks them to observe themselves for symptoms and to test themselves regularly in the next five days, regardless of the vaccination status. There is no obligation on the part of DIT to check. The entire group is required to wear masks in class for 14 days, regardless of the distance. The lectures can continue to take place in attendance.

Priority must always be given to complying with the instructions of the relevant health authority.

**f) Dealing with positive cases in the employee sector**

Employees who test positive at DIT will be asked by their immediate supervisor to undergo a PCR test and leave the university premises. In addition, the immediate supervisor will report this employee to the crisis team. The employee will remain in the home office until the result of the PCR test is available. If the PCR test is positive, the employee remains in the home office and awaits the order of the health authority. If the PCR test is negative, the employee may return to the workplace at DIT.

Priority must always be given to complying with the orders of the respective competent health office.

**g) Dealing with first contact cases in the employee sector**

For employees who are classified as first contact cases by the public health department, the current infection control regulations apply. The following homepage of the Deggendorf District Office provides a good overview: <https://corona.landkreis-deggendorf.de/alles-rund-um-corona/kurzuebersicht-isolation/>. The instructions of the competent health authority must be complied with.

## **2. Organisational requirements for the implementation of lectures and examinations**

When entering DIT (indoor and outdoor areas), the following hygiene requirements in particular must be strictly observed:

- a) In buildings and closed rooms of DIT, students and visitors are generally required to wear an FFP2 mask. The mask protection concept for authorities, as of 30.11.2021 (Annex 3) applies. The mask obligation also applies in principle in the square, as the minimum distance cannot usually be maintained. The mask obligation does not apply to the respective lecturer, provided he or she can maintain a sufficient minimum distance throughout.

In buildings and closed rooms of the THD, employees are also required to wear an FFP2 mask.

In particular, the obligation to wear masks does not apply at fixed sitting, standing or working places, as long as a minimum distance of 1.5 m to other persons is reliably maintained.

Appropriate notices have been posted at key points in the properties.

In principle, all university members are obliged to carry masks independently. Contingents of FFP2 masks and medical face masks have been issued to DIT employees. Employees can order additional FFP2 masks and medical face masks from the crisis team at any time. DIT has also set up a mask sale.

- b) Where possible, the minimum distance of 1.5 metres is to be maintained at all times and group gatherings in movement and meeting areas are to be avoided. Appropriate notices have been posted at key points on the properties.
- c) In sanitary areas and laboratories as well as in the lecture rooms, cleaning materials and disposable towels are provided in sufficient quantities. Facilities for hand disinfection are provided in the entrance areas of all buildings as well as in the sanitary areas.

- d) Objects (work equipment, tools, etc.) shall be used in a personalised manner whenever possible. If this is not possible, cleaning of objects before each use shall be made possible by providing surface disinfectants and wipes in the rooms.
- e) Rooms shall be cleaned regularly. Tables and shared equipment (tools; experimental devices; computer keyboards etc.) are to be cleaned regularly by the respective users. In this respect, surface disinfectants and cloths are provided in the lecture rooms and laboratories to enable this. The respective lecturer/organiser will point this out before and after the start of each lecture/event.
- f) To reduce the risk of smear infection, rooms are to be kept open as far as possible and handle contacts are to be minimised. The respective lecturer/organiser opens the door at the beginning of the lecture/course and closes it only when all participants are present.
- g) Regular ventilation must be ensured for all premises. DIT has prepared the attached ventilation concept (Annex 4), which is based on the provisions of occupational health and safety in accordance with the applicable regulations.
- h) In areas with public traffic such as service points, protective devices made of plexiglass panes were installed.
- i) Hygiene recommendations such as regular hand washing, coughing into the crook of the arm and disinfection are pointed out through notices at key points in the properties.
- j) The use of confined spaces such as toilets shall be limited to single use where possible (as indicated by appropriate notices), and the use of lifts shall be avoided.
- k) All members of the university are strongly advised to use the Corona warning app when on the university premises.
- l) Compliance with the regulations made under point 2 a) to g) are to be controlled by all superiors on a random basis.

### **3. Other university operations**

- a) Library operation: The library is open again with all locations for visitor traffic and lending operations. The requirements of the Bavarian Infection Protection Measures Ordinance (Bayerische Infektionsschutzmaßnahmenverordnung) apply in their most current form, in

particular also the current 2G rule for the use of the reading rooms. "Click & Collect" is possible without any access regulation.

- b) Food sales: The relevant infection control regulations and the framework hygiene concept for gastronomy apply.
- c) Services offered by DIT: Public traffic that is not essential for the research and teaching activities of the university has been reduced as much as possible. It has been replaced as far as possible by telephone, postal or electronic communication.  
For services offered by the university that require personal contact, organisational measures (allocation of individual appointments, definition of service offices according to Annex 5) are taken to avoid crowds.
- d) Holding of events: The relevant infection control regulations for events, assemblies, gatherings as well as for conferences and congresses also apply to the public areas and buildings of the university campus. The respective organiser (internal or external) is also bound by the specifications of this infection control concept, in particular the regulations according to point 2. When allocating rooms, priority is always given to the research and teaching activities of the university.
- e) Conducting university sports: When conducting university sports, the relevant infection control regulations for sports (including the framework concept for sports) apply.
- f) Excursions are again permitted without the approval of the crisis team or the university management. The respective lecturer carrying out the excursion is responsible for access control as well as for ordering and monitoring the mask requirement.
- g) For the duration of the epidemic situation of national scope, the Corona Occupational Health and Safety Ordinance shall continue to apply to employees. Personal contacts and the simultaneous use of company and break rooms by several persons shall be reduced to the necessary minimum. In general, meetings of several persons should be replaced by the use of digital information technology wherever possible.

#### **4. Contact details and procedure in case of (potential) infection**

If you have any questions, you can contact the crisis management team at any time at [krisenstab@th-deg.de](mailto:krisenstab@th-deg.de). The crisis management team also coordinates the involvement of other contact persons such as the occupational safety experts or the company doctor in charge.

In case of a suspected COVID-19 disease, a confirmed COVID-19 disease or a quarantine order, please immediately inform your respective supervisor as well as the crisis management team at [krisenstab@th-deg.de](mailto:krisenstab@th-deg.de).