

Traffic light status orange

Valid from 16 January 2022 until 28 February 2022

There has been a sharp increase of infections. The omicron variant of the virus poses a very high risk of infection. Additional, strict precautionary measures are introduced.

1. Use of university buildings

Access to the university building requires a valid negative PCR test certificate. This rule applies to everyone (university members, students, teachers, administrative staff, delivery people, guests and others). Hence, regardless of individual vaccination/recovery status, access requires a negative PCR test for SARS-CoV-2. In compliance with current regulations of the Federal Ministry of Health, the time of testing must not be more than 72 hours in the past (§ 2 Abs. 2 Z. 3; 6. COVID-19-Schutzmaßnahmenverordnung, BGBl II 537/2021, applicable version).

General access regulations

From Monday to Friday, everyone (university members, students, teachers, administrative staff, delivery people, guests and others) can access the building between 8.30 and 18.30 (porter service hours) at university entrances guarded by porters. Please show your valid negative PCR test certificates there.

The requirement to show a valid negative PCR test certificate upon access to the university buildings also applies outside porter service hours – to everyone (university members, students, teachers, administrative staff, delivery people, guests and others).

In case PCR testing was/is not available (e.g., no testing opportunities at the place of residence or during working hours) or a PCR test sample has been submitted but the result has not arrived in time due to exhausted lab capacities, a valid antigen test certificate (of the same day) may be used instead – if accessing a university building is necessary. The antigen test kit can be picked up and used at university entrances with porter service. It is valid for 24 hours.

Access for students (incl. scholarship holders):

General access regulations apply (see above).

On Saturdays and Sundays, students may access the buildings between 12:00 and 16:00 – in duly justified exceptional cases. A valid negative PCR test certificate is required. For this reason, the university extends porter service hours on the weekends (until the end of February).

The following conditions apply:

- Show a valid negative PCR test result at the porter's lodge at Hauptplatz 6.
- State your reasons for the necessity of accessing the building on a weekend (e.g., work on your final project).
- Specify where in the university building you will be staying (exact building and workshop).
- Porters will grant access and deliver an access key card for the weekend.

Every day (Mon-Sun), students and scholarship holders are required to leave the university building by 20:00.

Access for artistic-scientific staff and administrative staff:

General access regulations apply (see above).

Access cards of artistic-scientific staff and administrative staff are activated outside porter service hours.

General safety and hygiene regulations:

Strict compliance with hygiene regulations is mandatory in all buildings:

- Wear an FFP2 mask in the entire university building, especially during classes and in workshops.
- Persons with a medical certificate must not wear an FFP2 mask. They are still required to wear mouth and nose protection. If a workroom is occupied by only one person, mask-wearing is not mandatory.
- Ventilate rooms.
- Disinfect regularly.
- Comply with maximum room occupancy (shown on every door to seminar rooms, workshops and studios).

For the potential tracing of infection chains, you are required to use the locking system or the time-tracking system (access cards) to record your access to and presence in university buildings: Students, administrative staff and artistic-scientific staff must use their access cards for entering the building and each room.

Accordingly, attendance lists must be used at IFK and Tabakfabrik facilities.

2. Classes

Due to high infection numbers, classes must switch to distance-teaching if contents and methods allow. Classes which cannot be held via distance-teaching (e.g. first-year classes, workshop and lab classes) may be attended personally.

Personally attended classes require notification of the Vice Rectorate for Teaching (vizerektorat.lehre@ufg.at). These classes are defined and labelled in the ufg-online system by department and programme heads.

In order to reduce the risk of infection, you are required to reduce all contacts as much as possible. Keep a minimum safety distance of 2 metres and wear an FFP2 mask during classes. Furthermore, students and teachers showing symptoms of an infection must not attend classes personally, even if they have a valid negative PCR test result.

Students who belong to an at-risk group or cannot attend classes due to the pandemic situation must receive the opportunity to attend class via distance-teaching or, if possible, to take the class during another semester.

3. Examinations

If possible, examinations must be held remotely. If not possible, they may be attended personally – in compliance with safety and hygiene regulations. Apart from the examinee and the examination commission, up to 3 of the students' trusted persons may attend the examination. In order to reduce the risk of infection, no other guests may attend examinations.

4. Library

Lending services are available. The reading room is open (maximum occupancy 8 people). All hygiene regulations must be followed, wearing of FFP2 masks is mandatory.

Library visitors must sign in at the porter's lodge (Hauptplatz 8) and produce a valid PCR test certificate. Visitors are also required to wear an FFP2 mask.

Opening hours: Mon-Fri: 9:00-15:00

5. Events

Events are cancelled or take place digitally.

Exhibitions may only be planned and realised in consultation with event management (sylvia.leitner@ufg.at). Access to the university buildings (e.g., for visiting an exhibition) can only be granted for single persons individually. A valid negative PCR test certificate is required.

6. Mobilities

There are no excursions.

7. Administrative staff

University administration will work in shifts. Hence, employees will alternate with telework (home-office) shifts where possible (depending on responsibilities). If telework is not possible, e.g., because of essential work which can only be carried out at the university, hygiene and safety distance regulations must be followed. In any case, telework must be organised in consultation with the responsible supervisor and the responsible member of the Rectorate. Department and institute officers ('Referent*innen') may choose telework if university operations allow and institute heads and the responsible member of the Rectorate agree. Anyone working from home must comply with time-tracking regulations and the guideline published in the news bulletin on 12 January 2022 ([Mitteilungsblatt 17 Studienjahr 2021/2022](#)).

Administrative staff may get PCR-tested at pharmacies or delivery points close to their place of employment up to twice a week during working hours. Please coordinate times with your supervisor.

Personal service hours are possible by appointment only. You are required to produce a valid negative PCR test result.

8. At-risk groups and persons with care responsibilities

At-risk groups are defined here:

<https://www.ris.bka.gv.at/GeltendeFassung.wxe?Abfrage=Bundesnormen&Gesetzesnummer=20011167>

At-risk persons are requested to contact the HR department. A medical certificate must be submitted.

9. Appeal for vaccination

Present regulations require PCR testing regardless of your individual vaccination/recovery status. PCR testing aims to reduce the risk of contracting an infection with the highly infectious Omicron variant of the virus. By no means does this discount the importance and priority of getting vaccinated against the coronavirus. On the contrary: Only a vaccination offers protection against severe courses of an infection. On this account, the Rectorate appeals to all university members to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

10. Instructions for (suspected) cases of infection

If symptoms of an infection occur at university:

- Patient calls 1450
- If severe symptoms occur (difficulty in breathing, high fever,...), the patient or an immediate contact person calls 144.

- Inform the rectorate (Ms Grogger: 0732 7898 2220, daniela.grogger@ufg.at).
- Isolate the patient immediately, give them mouth and nose protection, disinfect hands (use disinfectants or wash hands with soap).
- Follow medical instructions (given by a doctor/health authorities).

If symptoms of an infection occur at home:

- Contact the AGES coronavirus hotline (0800 555 621) for general questions.
- Patient calls 1450 in a suspected case of infection. If severe symptoms occur (difficulty in breathing, high fever,...), the patient or an immediate contact person calls 144.
- Patient informs the university (Ms Grogger: 0732 7898 2220, daniela.grogger@ufg.at).
- Patient self-isolates, makes a list of all recent personal contacts (if possible, including phone numbers and addresses).
- Follow medical instructions (given by doctor/health authorities).

Confirmation of a coronavirus infection

If an infection has been confirmed:

- Patient informs the university (Ms Grogger: 0732 7898 2220, daniela.grogger@ufg.at). In severe cases, municipal or state health authorities inform the university.
- Follow official instructions (municipal or state health authorities).

[Download the detailed course of action for \(suspected\) cases of a coronavirus infection \(PDF file\)](#)

If you have questions concerning COVID-19 regulations, please send an e-mail to krisenstab@ufg.at.