

27 August 2021

Extension of company testing to students and walk-in vaccination days

Dear students

After a cautiously optimistic start to the summer, the Corona case numbers are moving in an unfavourable direction again. The situation is currently still under control, and most people at risk have been vaccinated, said Federal Councilor Alain Berset on Wednesday. However, the virus is spreading strongly among the non-vaccinated, which is why the hospitals are coming under pressure again. If there were to be an overload in the intensive care units, the Confederation wants to tighten the measures again – for example, by extending the Covid certificate obligation for restaurants, theatres or museums. Together with Swiss universities, we are also looking into allowing universities to require certificates, which would influence our further planning steps.

This uncertain situation leads us at the UAS Grisons not to envisage any relaxation measures at the moment. Our goals remain unchanged: To protect the health of all of us and to offer the greatest possible planning security, we are sticking to our decisions. We want to make an active contribution to positively influencing the pandemic response.

For example, the autumn semester will start in hybrid-alternative mode and continue in this way until at least 15 October 2021. In this context, consistent compliance with common hygiene and behavioural measures continues to be important. Masks are still compulsory in all publicly accessible rooms, including the classrooms. Only lecturers teaching or students lecturing in the same way as lecturers are exempt, provided they maintain a distance of 1.5 metres. If the distance of 1.5 metres is not maintained in the offices, a mask must also be worn.

Testing will be extended to students

To bring the situation even more under control, we are extending the voluntary company tests. From the beginning of the semester, students will also be able to take part in the tests. Pick-up and drop-off stations are available at all sites in Chur, where you can register using a QR code. In Rapperswil, company tests are not available due to cantonal regulations, but in Zurich and Berne it is also possible to take part in tests. Priska Obrecht (Zurich) and Pia Hess (Bern) have more information. Contact tracing in class via Moodle will also remain in place for the autumn semester. In addition, contact tracing will be ensured at the entrances to publicly accessible rooms such as the refectories, the libraries, and the building entrances by means of badging on the laptops provided.

The canton of the Grisons recently launched a vaccination campaign in which people can get vaccinated at various locations without making an appointment. This was met with great interest. The UAS Grisons is also participating in this vaccination effort and is therefore offering two walk-in vaccination days at location A this autumn. The first vaccination will take place on 28 and 30 September, the second dose will be administered on 26 and 28 October. Vaccination is also available to residents of other cantons in Switzerland. All you need is a health insurance card and an identification card (ID or passport). We strongly recommend that

you participate in this vaccination campaign. In this way we can help to ensure that we will all soon be able to study, research and work at our university without restrictions.

As always, all information is also posted on our website fhgr.ch/en/coronavirus and is updated continuously.

It is of great concern to us that the autumn semester 2021 can take place again as soon as possible on site and in the established quality.

Yours, Jürg Kessler

Head of Crisis Management, President