

(General) hygiene concept of Flensburg University of Applied Sciences

This concept is valid until further notice; it applies to Flensburg University of Applied Sciences (FUAS) in its entirety.

Preamble

The health and safety of its students, teaching staff, employees and visitors are the main focus of the measures taken at FUAS in the current situation.

At the same time, we want to do what is our main task as a university: provide education.

This hygiene concept aims to create and ensure a safe environment in which all members of our university and their guests stay healthy and which allows a step by step return to normal university operations in times of the COVID-19 pandemic.

This can only be achieved by constantly re-assessing and re-adjusting important and necessary safety measures. This hygiene concept is based on a number of regulations on dealing with the pandemic in place, the Regulations to fight the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 at universities [*Hochschul-Corona-Verordnung*, German language version: https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Schwerpunkte/Coronavirus/Erlasse/2021/210722_Hochschulen_CoronaVO.html] and the Regulations to fight the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 issued by the Land Schleswig-Holstein [*Corona-Bekämpfungsverordnung des Landes Schleswig-Holstein*, German language version: https://www.schleswig-holstein.de/DE/Schwerpunkte/Coronavirus/Erlasse/2021/210817_Corona-BekaempfungsVO.html] as well as the occupational safety and health regulations in place.

We trust and rely on all members and guests of FUAS to act responsibly and in a way, which considers and respects others; this is the most important pre-requisites for this hygiene concept to be effective.

I. General information

The principles of infection prevention apply to all activities and events held by FUAS and on its premises (this includes teaching, seminars, laboratory classes, meetings, assessments, workshops etc.). By adhering to these principles, everyone takes on responsibility not only for themselves but for others, too.

The elemental hygiene rules (keeping a distance from others (at least 1.5 metres), (hand) hygiene, cough and sneeze etiquette, masks covering the mouth and nose and regular ventilation of rooms) are the most important measures to minimise the risk of infection.

In order to participate in any class or assessment taking place indoors in person, participants must provide a negative test, evidence that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or that they have recovered from a COVID-19 infection. The negative test must be issued by an entity authorised to administer tests for an infection with the coronavirus; the test must not be older than 48 hours at the start of the class or activity.¹

The spread of COVID-19 can be reduced by a large number of people getting vaccinated and everyone getting tested regularly.

A medical mask covering the mouth and nose (FFP2-,N95-,2-,DS2-,CPA-,KN95- or surgical mask) must be worn in all of FUAS' buildings, including their entrance areas (20 metre radius) and at

¹ Full vaccinations requires a time period of at least 14 days after the last necessary shot; tests must not be older than 48 hours; recovery from an infection with COVID-19 within the last six months

workplaces located in enclosed areas. Masks must be worn so that the number of respiratory droplets and aerosols spread when coughing, sneezing or speaking is reduced.

Face coverings must not be worn:

- at permanent standing places or seats where a minimum distance of 1.5 metres can be kept or the risk of a transmission of the virus can be reduced with the help of appropriate physical barriers,
- for people carrying out hard physical work,
- where a contact situation only includes persons living in the same household,
- when eating,
- if wearing a mask is not reasonable in an individual case (a doctor's note is required in such a case),
- at events or activities for which FUAS restricts access to people who are vaccinated, tested or have recovered from a COVID-19 infection.

The number of people allowed to gather as well as the rules on distance keeping that apply for such gatherings are defined in the Regulations issued by the Land Schleswig-Holstein valid at the time of the gathering.

FUAS staff and guests must sign in and out at the terminals in FUAS' buildings when they enter and leave them.

Participants of an activity must fill in the lists provided.

Participants who have notable respiratory symptoms (e.g. coughing, sore throat or aching limbs) are asked to leave the activity unless they can provide a doctor's note verifying that the respiratory symptoms are not of an infectious nature (e.g. students with an asthma cough). Instead of a doctor's note, participants can also provide a negative PCR test, evidence that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or that they have recovered from a COVID-19 infection.

The participant lists serve the purpose of tracing back possible chains of infection and contacting people if necessary. The attendance lists will be stored by the party organising the event or activity (e.g. the Dean's Office or people designated by them, the organisers) for a four-week period after the activity has ended. The data protection rules are to be adhered to. The lists are to be handed to the health department in charge if required.

Occupational safety and health regulations remain valid in addition to this hygiene concept.

II. Framework conditions (organisation and facilities)

1. Routes to be followed through FUAS' buildings will be designated and marked in order to avoid direct encounters (walk on the right side) and ensure that distances can be kept (avoid overtaking others).
2. Some stairs will be marked for the way up and others for the way down; they are to be used accordingly.
3. If the use of a lift is necessary, it must only be used by one person at a time.
4. General advice for the prevention of infections have been posted on the entrance doors to all buildings and are to be adhered by.

5. If it is not possible to guarantee the minimum distance, e.g. when participants enter a room, the registration of the participants must take place in more than one places.
6. The sanitary facilities are cleaned daily.
7. Facilities in which activities are held must be aired regularly during the activity; a sufficient ventilation must be ensured between activities, too. At the end of an activity, work spaces (table tops, work and laboratory equipment) are to be cleaned by the users and the supervisors using the surface disinfectants. The materials and resources required will be handed out as communicated via the notice boards and the website.
8. A maximum number of people allowed to use a room at the same time while adhering to the distancing rules in place will be defined for each room. Seating or workplaces not to be used will be marked accordingly.
9. Where groups have to be set up for classes and other teaching taking place at FUAS, these groups are defined by the member of teaching staff. Students who want to change groups must discuss this with the member of teaching staff in charge.
10. If the minimum distance cannot be kept in certain rooms or laboratories or at activities or events with specific (organisational) conditions, further measures must be taken to reduce the risk of infection. Such measures include reducing the number of participants, using physical barriers (partitions) or similar equipment, wearing medical masks throughout the entire event or activity or the restriction of access to the event or activity for people who are fully vaccinated, tested or have recovered from a COVID-19 infection.

Participants must be informed of such necessary additional measures in due time before the start of an event or activity.

11. If possible, doors are to be kept open during an event/activity to avoid the use of door handles and ensure the circulation of air.

Food may not be consumed in facilities in which activities take place. Drinks should be brought, consumed and disposed of by participants individually. If events or activities take place over a longer period of time, rooms to take breaks in will be designated by the organisers.
12. Washing hands and using the disinfectant provided before and after an activity contributes to the prevention of infections.
13. The facilities in which an activity takes place are to be prepared by the supervising staff or organisers prior to the activity. Where materials or equipment are needed these are to be distributed to the seats or work spaces as far as that is possible.
14. After the end of an event or activity participants should limit the time they spend in FUAS' buildings or on campus to a minimum, hygiene rules must be followed at all times.
15. Private meetings on campus are permissible if the rules defined by this hygiene concept are kept to.
16. Supervisory staff can exclude participants from an event/activity if they are not adhering to hygiene rules and continue to do so after having been given a warning.

17. The name of anyone violating the hygiene rules in a severe manner must be reported to the Dean's Offices and the President's Office. In this case the measures taken may go as far as banning people from FUAS' premises.

III. Organisation within FUAS

1. The Dean's Office must be notified of any planned activities at least 14 days ahead of time in electronic form (via the online request form published on the website). Activities will be approved by the Dean's Offices. The Dean's Office also defines requirements in accordance with II.10.
2. University-wide activities or activities involving more than one faculty will be approved by the President's Office.
3. A confirmation by the Facilities Management is required in both cases.

Approvals already given may be withdrawn on the basis of new decrees issued by the Land or similarly important reasons. If this is the case, the activity must be cancelled or take place online.