

Dear colleagues,

Unfortunately, due to the current development of the coronavirus pandemic, short-term and far-reaching regulations have been resolved, which already apply beginning today, 24 November 2021.

We therefore ask to strictly observe the following regulations with immediate effect:

1. Access only for employees with 2G or valid PCR test (3G plus)

Due to the 15th regulation on infection prevention and control measures (*Infektionsschutzmaßnahmenverordnung*), which came into force on 24 November 2021, 2G categorically applies to students at universities. At the same time, however, it was also determined that access for employees is only possible with 2G (only vaccinated or recovered persons). Employees who do not fulfil 2G may only carry out their activities in rooms of the University of Bamberg with a valid PCR test, which must be presented twice a week. For these employees, the only remaining option is to perform the activity to the greatest extent possible from home. Insofar as the employment requires an on-site presence either completely or in part, there is no other option than the prior administration of a PCR test. As far as is known at present, the costs of the required PCR tests are to be borne by the employee, with the exception of employees who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons. According to current knowledge, PCR tests can be carried out in Bamberg at the Malteser Hilfsdienst <https://malteser-dioezese-bamberg.covidservicepoint.de/en>

All supervisors are obliged to ensure that their subordinates comply with the 3G plus regulation at the University of Bamberg and to closely examine the possibilities of working partially or completely from home. We will communicate more detailed regulations on further procedures as soon as possible. For a start though, it must be ensured that employees who do not fulfil the 2G regulation are not allowed to come to the University of Bamberg without a PCR test.

2. Working from home for all employees

At the same time, as of 24 November 2021, all employees are once again required to perform their work from home.

A superior shall only decline working from home if and insofar as the respective activity is neither completely nor partially suitable for remote work or if urgent official reasons require the presence of the employee.

3. Termination of the previous offering for rapid tests under supervision for employees

The previous possibility for employees without proof of vaccination or convalescence to carry out a rapid test under supervision is no longer sufficient under the legislation currently in force. This means that the test room in the city centre as well as the testing facilities at the Malteser Hilfsdienst (ERBA and Feki) are no longer necessary and thus will be closed for the time being.

Unfortunately, we can only provide information currently available, due to the short notice of the announcement of the regulation. We are in intensive exchange with the Ministry on a number of questions that still require clarification. Therefore, additions and modifications are to be expected. We will inform you immediately as soon as we have more detailed information.

The current exceptional situation is yet another major challenge for everyone. I would like to thank you once again – but no less explicitly – for your exemplary behaviour, your understanding and your flexibility.

Please continue to take good care of yourselves and, above all, stay healthy.

Sincerely,

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