

To all
deans and vice deans, managing directors and
institutes, professors and employees of the
University of Bonn
- excluding University Hospital Bonn (UKB) -

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Circular No. 93/2021
New coronavirus regulations at the University of Bonn

- **Courses, use of libraries, museums and other events**
- **Masks compulsory at events**
- **Working hours when working from home and release from work obligations**
- **Monitoring the 3G rule in the workplace**
- **Coronavirus tests and self-testing kits for employees**
- **Taking up the offer of a vaccine**

Dear Sir or Madam,

Coronavirus infection rates have risen sharply in Bonn and the rest of Germany in the past weeks; this led to new official regulations being issued in North Rhine-Westphalia. These are being implemented by the University of Bonn, in addition to measures for protection of our students, teachers, researchers and staff and to reduce infections in general.

This Circular serves to inform you about the updated regulations on research and teaching operations, on working from home and on site, on other events and on the 3G rule (vaccinated, tested, recovered) in the workplace. We would also like to make you aware that tests and self-testing kits are still available and that masks must now be worn once again during events.

The University aims to continue to make in-person teaching possible this semester to the greatest extent possible while also ensuring maximum safety for our teachers, researchers, technical and administrative staff and students.

Courses, use of libraries, museums and other events

Compliance with and checking of 3G status is required to attend courses at the University and using its libraries (including borrowing and returning media).

Compliance with and checking of the 2G status (vaccinated, recovered) is required in order to take part in University sports, enter museums and the Botanic Garden and attend concerts and other performances.

Official meetings that have to be held in person (e.g. Senate and faculty council meetings) are to continue to take place in person; compliance with and checking of 3G status is required.

A digital format is to be chosen for official events that do not necessarily need to be held in person (business meetings, consultations, training events and meetings of bodies held behind closed doors, such as committees) where possible. The same applies to events of a generally social nature (e.g. speeches/lectures for special occasions, Christmas parties).

For the aforementioned events held in person, as a general rule, the 3G rule applies. For all other events held in person, in particular events of a generally social nature, compliance with and checking of 2G status is required.

Masks compulsory at events

In light of rising coronavirus cases and the fraught situation, the Rectorate—in consultation with the faculties—has ruled that masks are to be mandatory at all events, including courses. This means that a medical or FFP 2 mask must be worn, including at your seat. Speakers and other participants are permitted to remove their mask while they are speaking.

Medical and FFP 2 masks for staff can continue to be ordered in the usual way.

Working hours when working from home and release from work obligations

The following applies for all stakeholder groups: Wherever staff are able to perform office work or similar activities from home, this must be the preferred option unless certain operational or scientific constraints, such as teaching courses face to face or conducting research, require people to be present on site. When working on site, applicable safety regulations must be adhered to. Safe measures and handouts are available on the coronavirus-related sections of the University website ([“Important documents”](#)> [“Internal Regulations”](#)).

Monitoring the 3G rule in the workplace

The provisions of the **3G rule** must be observed in the workplace with immediate effect. This means that every staff member, scholarship recipient and student working on the premises must have been **vaccinated or tested or must have recovered from the disease**. Proof of a negative rapid antigen test or PCR test must not be any more than 24 or 48 hours old respectively.

Employees will no longer be allowed to enter University buildings without carrying proof of 3G compliance on their person!

3G status will be checked as follows:

The individual units will check **themselves** that everyone present meets the 3G criteria. Responsibility in each case lies with **supervisors** but verification of the status can be delegated to other members of staff. At institute level, the **managing directors** are responsible for checking the 3G status of their staff. Here also, verification of the status can be delegated to other members of staff. The status of **managing directors** will be verified by their deputy or the dean. Employees of external companies will be checked by their employer.

The performance of staff checks must be documented in accordance with data protection regulations (an example of a table is available [here](#)). Additional information on storage of, access to and deletion of such data will follow shortly. Vaccinated people need only be checked once as a basic principle, meaning that only those with proof of a test result have to be questioned every day. Acceptable forms of evidence are vaccination passports and certificates (e.g. the CovPass app) as well as test results in digital or paper form. The CovPassCheck app created by the Robert Koch Institute is to be used to check digital vaccination certificates. We recommend using the 2G status card for the current semester. **Staff ID cards are no longer valid.**

Coronavirus tests and self-testing kits for employees

Being able to spot an infection in good time, particularly among people who have been vaccinated and thus will rarely have pronounced symptoms, is a major help in fighting the pandemic.

To this end, the University is continuing to offer all staff the opportunity to test themselves twice a week using a self-testing kit before they even set off for work. The University will still be providing self-testing kits, and we would kindly ask you to make use of them and thus help to curb the pandemic. Please tell the [Occupational Safety](#)

[and Environmental Protection Unit](#) how many kits your unit will need, and we will gladly supply you with enough.

The test center on the Poppelsdorf Campus can still be used to obtain tests with a certificate.

Taking up the offer of a vaccine

Allow us to end with our urgent appeal: **please take up your offer of a vaccine, including your booster!** The best way to protect yourself and your family, friends and colleagues is to get vaccinated against the coronavirus.

The University is currently working once again to put on a vaccination drive of its own. Vaccinations will be offered on January 11 and 26, 2022 in partnership with AOK. In addition, this link <https://coronaimpfung.nrw/impfregister> tells you where else you can get vaccinated in Bonn and the Rhein-Sieg district.

As before, you can find further information on the coronavirus-related sections of the University website.

The regulations may be amended depending on how the trend in infections develops. Should this be the case, we will let you know in good time.

Sincerely,

signed Professor Dr. Dr. h. c. Michael Hoch
Rector

signed Holger Gottschalk
Provost