



Dear colleagues and students,

on the basis of the extraordinary measure of the Ministry of Health (hereinafter as the 'Ministry') issued on 27 May 2021, ref. no. MZDR 14600/2021-13/MIN/KAN, and the extraordinary measure of the Ministry, ref. no. MZDR 21735/2021-1/MIN/KAN, which amends the conditions of operations of higher education institutions and some other measures issued earlier concerning testing and proving the absence of infection by students, applicants for studies, and participants in lifelong learning programmes and other educational events for the public, we wish to summarise current measures concerning this area. Changes in measures that were announced earlier are underlined.

Degree programmes

- Distances between persons of at least 1,5m must be maintained during instruction, with the exception of clinical and practical instruction and training, and student examinations.
- Participation in educational activities has been permitted only as long as the student is not exhibiting symptoms of the COVID-19 disease and presents proof of having undergone a preventive test, the result of which was negative, or proof of a relevant exemption from the regulation concerning preventive testing applies (for more information, see below).
- Sports activities can take place without restrictions in degree programmes for which these activities constitute a core part of the degree programme. In other degree programmes, sports activities are possible on outdoor premises without restrictions; in indoor premises only under the condition that at least 15 m² of the indoor sports grounds is allocated per person. In addition, only 12 people in a group can be present at the most and 30 people in total on the indoor sports grounds; it now also permitted to remain in premises of changing rooms, however, it is prohibited to remain in other indoor premises such as showers etc.
- Singing is not permitted in the context of instruction except for degree programmes for which these activities are core parts of the degree programme; singing is potentially permitted with a maximum of 6 students in attendance in person in the room.
- Please, respect also ordinances and recommendations that are currently in effect concerning respiratory tract protection, the use of disinfectants, etc. The presence and stay in buildings of the USB without respiratory tract protective equipment (nose, mouth) that is understood as a respirator or similar means of protection in compliance with corresponding standards (FFP2, KN 95) is prohibited. Educational activities (examinations), the nature of which does not allow for the use of protective equipment (particularly physical education, singing, playing wind instruments) may constitute an exemption. In cases in which it is necessary that the student sees the mouth of the educator during instruction, it is possible for the educator to use a face shield as protective equipment for respiratory tract protection under the condition that the educator maintains a distance of at least 2 meters from students.
- To participate in *mass* in-person educational activities and exams (incl. state final examinations), it is required that students present evidence of undergoing a preventive test, the result of which is negative (more information below), or evidence of the fact that any of the exemptions outlined below apply. The confirmation of preventive testing or the fact that an exemption applies is not required for participation in individual consultations, individual instruction, or other individual activity (practical training¹ etc.)

Admission exams

- Admission exams may take place in person, as long as distances of at least 1.5m are maintained between individual persons. Applicants shall present evidence of absence of infection (for more information, see below).

¹ Practical training takes place according to conditions set by the place of work where the student in question is pursuing his or her practical training. These conditions may include the potential requirement of undergoing a test in parallel with employee testing. No testing for the purpose of practical training has been ordered in a blanket manner.



Participation in academic ceremonies (graduations etc.)

It is permitted to participate in academic ceremonies under the following conditions.

- The total permissible number of persons present must not be higher than 50 % of the total seating capacity of the venue.
- The total number of persons present must not be higher than 250 persons.
- All persons in attendance shall provide evidence of absence of infection (for more information, see below).
- All persons in attendance, except for children under the age of 2 inclusive, shall use respiratory tract protective equipment (nose, mouth) that is understood as a respirator or similar means of protection in compliance with corresponding standards (FFP2, KN 95).
- All participants remain seated in such a manner that at least one unoccupied seat is left between individual participants except for persons from the same household.

Lifelong learning programmes, educational events, and exams for the public

Lifelong learning courses, other educational events and exams for the public may take place in person as long as the maximum number of participants allowed to take part is not higher than 50 % of the total seating capacity and, concurrently, the total number of those present (including performers, organisers, examiners, etc.) is not over 250 persons. Additionally, the following conditions must be met.

- Participation is permitted only to persons displaying no clinical symptoms of the COVID-19 disease.
- All persons in attendance shall use appropriate respiratory tract protective equipment (nose, mouth) for the whole duration of the event. Such protective equipment is understood as a respirator or similar means of protection in compliance with corresponding standards (FFP2, KN 95). Educational activities (examinations), the nature of which does not allow for the use of protective equipment (particularly physical education, singing, playing wind instruments) may constitute an exemption. In cases in which it is necessary that the student sees the mouth of the educator during instruction, it is possible for the educator to use a face shield as protective equipment for respiratory tract protection under the condition that the educator maintains a distance of at least 2 meters from participants.
- All participants must remain seated, unless it is practical instruction or practical examination, in such a manner that at least one unoccupied seat is left between individual participants except for persons from the same household.
- All persons in attendance, except for children under the age of 6, shall provide evidence of absence of infection (for more information, see below).

Rules for testing students

The first test shall be done on the first day of the in-person presence of students at faculties or dormitories or other accommodation facilities of USB should students be accommodated there before undergoing tests preceding instruction at faculties. Students who are accommodated at accommodation facilities of USB are required to undergo the test upon arrival to the accommodation facility should they be present there in person before participating in in-person instruction.

Testing is not necessary if students can provide evidence of the facts presented below.

The following testing system has been implemented at the University of South Bohemia.

- There is a central testing system using the POC antigen test to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus performed by a provider of healthcare services. It is necessary to register for testing via the reservation system accessible at <https://regcovid.jcu.cz/>. The central testing system is only available to students with valid health insurance that also covers preventive testing (the student in question has been allocated a national identification number/insurance number). Students may register for preventive testing once every three days at the most (health insurance companies cover tests once every three days at the most).



- The Faculty of Science secures testing of its students.
- There are also antigen tests to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that are intended for self-testing or approved by the Ministry for use by non-professionals. These tests are available at faculties or accommodation facilities of USB as alternative solutions in substantiated cases. Faculties and D&R shall provide students with information concerning this testing option. In the case of self-testing, students are required to complete an affidavit concerning the testing performed.

Tests are performed once every 7 days. The testing interval may be shorter in substantiated case (it may be shortened due to operational reasons, particularly with respect to preventing clusters of persons during testing). The interval may be changed according to the participation of the student in instruction or exams, depending on evidence of having undergone a test as per conditions outlined below being provided, etc. It is necessary to preserve the condition of testing on the day of instruction or examination at the latest in the cases of collective instruction or examination if the test was not performed within the prior 6 days. Students accommodated at USB facilities are required to undergo regular testing even if they do not participate in in-person instruction.

Students are required to do the following **should their test result be positive**.

- Students must leave USB premises or other premises where instruction takes place as well as premises of USB accommodation facilities; when that is not possible, the student does not have to leave the accommodation facility of US and the following steps are taken according to the [Methodological directive stipulating conditions of quarantines and isolations required from employees and students of the University of South Bohemia in České Budějovice](#).
- Students must **inform their general practitioner about the positive test result** by phone or another common way of distance communication. The medical practitioner shall decide on performing a confirmation test using the RT-PCR method and completes the electronic request form for the testing. Students whose preventive antigen test results are positive are required to undergo a confirmation RT-PCR test to ascertain the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus
- Students must **inform the faculty** (via email sent to their study administrator or via another common way of distance communication) about the fact that the result of the preventive antigen test or the confirmation RT-PCR test performed at USB or by another provider of medical services (see below) was positive. USB is required to contact the Regional Public Health Office in the case of a positive test result without delay and provide all collaboration required.

Providing evidence of absence of infection in order to participate in mass instruction or attend an examination

Students shall provide evidence of compliance with the condition of testing or the fact that a relevant exemption from the obligation applies by providing one of the following:

- a confirmation of a negative result of a POC antigen test to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or the RT-PCR test to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus issued by a provider of healthcare services that is no older than 168 hours and that was performed by the provider of healthcare services pursuant to the current extraordinary measure of the Ministry concerning tests in the context of the testing system at USB, or by another provider of healthcare services,
- a confirmation issued by a constituent part of USB on the basis of a performed self-testing (in the context of the testing system at USB, see above),
- a confirmation of the fact that the person in question suffered a case of the Covid-19 disease that was confirmed in a laboratory and that the period of isolation pursuant to the current extraordinary measure of the Ministry has passed and no more than 180 days have passed since the first positive POC antigen test to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or the RT-PCR test to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus,



- a certificate of vaccination against the Covid-19 disease if:
 - i) at least 22 days, but no more than 90 days if the second dose was not administered, have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the two-dose system according to the Summary of Product Characteristics about the medicinal product (hereinafter as the “Summary”)
 - ii) at least 22 days, but no more than 9 months if the second dose was administered, have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the two-dose system according to the Summary,
 - iii) at least 14 days have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the single-dose system according to the Summary.

A testing confirmation based on self-testing at an employer of students external to USB cannot be accepted.

Providing evidence of absence of infection by applicants for studies in the context of admission exams

Applicants shall provide evidence of compliance with the condition of testing or the fact that a relevant exemption from the obligation applies by providing one of the following:

- a confirmation of a negative result of the POC antigen test to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or the RT-PCR test to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that was performed in the 7 days prior to the day of the admission exam in question,
- a certificate of vaccination against the Covid-19 disease if:
 - i) at least 22 days, but no more than 90 days if the second dose was not administered, have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the two-dose system according to the Summary of Product Characteristics about the medicinal product (hereinafter as the “Summary”)
 - ii) at least 22 days, but no more than 9 months if the second dose was administered, have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the two-dose system according to the Summary,
 - iii) at least 14 days have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the single-dose system according to the Summary,
- a confirmation of the fact that the person in question suffered a case of the Covid-19 disease that was confirmed in a laboratory and that the period of isolation pursuant to the current extraordinary measure of the Ministry has passed and no more than 180 days have passed since the first positive POC antigen test to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or the RT-PCR test to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

Providing evidence of absence of infection in the context of lifelong learning programmes, educational events, and examinations for the public

All persons in attendance shall provide one of the following:

- a confirmation of a negative result of the POC antigen test to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or the RT-PCR test to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus that are no older than 7 days,
- a confirmation of a negative result of the POC test to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus no older than 72 hours,



- a certificate of vaccination against the Covid-19 disease if:
 - i) at least 22 days, but no more than 90 days if the second dose was not administered, have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the two-dose system according to the Summary of Product Characteristics about the medicinal product (hereinafter as the "Summary")
 - ii) at least 22 days, but no more than 9 months if the second dose was administered, have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the two-dose system according to the Summary.
 - iii) at least 14 days have passed since the administration of the first dose of the vaccination substance in the case of the single-dose system according to the Summary.
- a confirmation of the fact that the person in question suffered a case of the Covid-19 disease that was confirmed in a laboratory and that the period of isolation pursuant to the current extraordinary measure of the Ministry has passed and no more than 180 days have passed since the first positive POC antigen test to detect the presence of the antigen of the SARS-CoV-2 virus or the RT-PCR test to detect the presence of the SARS-CoV-2 virus.

The abovementioned is currently announced with effect until further notice. Should the circumstances change, along with the binding regulations that the USB must follow, we shall inform you again.

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