

Rector's decision on issues related to coronavirus outbreak

Based on information of the University of South Bohemia (USB) crisis team on the issue of the coronavirus outbreak and the meeting with the Regional Public Health Authority of the South Bohemian Region in České Budějovice (hereinafter: RPHA), which issued regulations and recommendations for the USB, I issue the following guidelines for all constituent parts of the USB:

1. The coordination of all measures related to coronavirus outbreak is entrusted to the USB Safety officer, Miloslav Švarc (hereinafter: the coordinator), who shall:
 - a. ensure mutual communication between USB and RPHA;
 - b. distributes information on the arrival of foreign students from crisis areas at the USB;
 - c. is entitled to issue methodological instructions for implementation of partial measures at faculties and other departments of USB;
 - d. discuss partial measures on coronavirus outbreak with the Deans of the faculties and directors of all constituent parts of the USB;
 - e. inform the USB management about the adopted regulations from the RPHA and measures applied at the USB;
 - f. is entitled to invite other USB experts to cooperate.
2. Work trips and student mobilities to risk countries and particular risk areas of coronavirus contamination are prohibited with immediate effect. As the situation is changing constantly, the determination of risk countries and risk areas is based on the current information from the RPHA and the websites of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at <https://www.mzv.cz/jnp/cz/cestujeme/index.html> and the Ministry of Health <https://www.mzcr.cz/>. It is strongly recommended to avoid these destinations even on private trips.
3. In case of work trips abroad and outgoing mobilities to other countries, USB employees and students are advised to exercise special caution and to pay increased attention to hygiene rules.
4. If a USB employee or student is coming from risk countries or risk areas of coronavirus contamination, they are obliged to report it to their superiors and via the coordinator also to the RPHA. This applies to both work and private trips. According to the instructions of RPHA, they are then obliged to maintain quarantine for 14 days after arrival. Violations of these rules will be reported to the RPHA and the authorities will then draw consequences for the person concerned.
 - a. According to the decision of the superior and the nature of their work, employees will either be allowed to work from home or they will receive sick leave during the quarantine period.
 - b. Students who have arrived from risk countries or risk areas of coronavirus contamination after February 24, 2020 are not allowed to attend classes, visit university facilities and events for 14 days. Their absence will be seen as in the case of sickness.
 - c. Foreign students coming from these countries and areas are obliged to quarantine, which is regulated by the instructions of the coordinator.
5. All constituent parts of the USB are strongly appealed to cancel, if possible, student and staff arrivals and visits from risk countries or risk areas of coronavirus contamination. If they arrive, the relevant constituent part of the USB shall follow the instructions of this Decision and the specific instructions of the coordinator. It ensures both the safe transfer of the person concerned from the airport to USB and their quarantine.

- a. The RPHA recommendation apply for the transfer of the persons: the person to be transported will wear a mask, the driver will wear a P3, P2 respirator (or a mask in case of emergency) and a disposable protective jacket. After the transport, the car will be ventilated and the surfaces will be wiped with an alcohol-based disinfectant solution according to the coordinator's instructions.
 - b. For accommodation during the quarantine period, the person concerned is prohibited to attend lectures and visit all common areas. Contact with others should be minimized while maintaining common safety measures (mask, hygiene rules). The rooms where the person will be accommodated will be equipped with their own sanitary facilities, antiviral gel and disposable paper towels. Everyday waste disposal and safety measures for catering staff will be ensured.
6. In case of having symptoms of the infection (increased temperature, cough, respiratory problems), the matter must be reported immediately via the coordinator to RPHA, or (on weekends) to the Infection Department of the Hospital in České Budějovice.
7. The Deans of the Faculty of Fisheries and Protection of Waters, Faculty of Education, Faculty of Science, Faculty of Theology, and Faculty of Health and Social Sciences, which have registry offices in their organizational structure, are obliged to provide their employees protective equipment at least a mask, gloves and hand disinfectant. Masks and gloves will be issued to them by the coordinator.
8. The head of the Departments of Building Maintenance and Management of the USB is obliged to discuss with the manager of OLMAN SERVICE hygienic protection issues, at least to the extent of more frequent wiping of handles and door handles installed at busy areas. Deans of the Faculty of Education, Faculty of Theology and the Director of the University Dormitories and Refectories, who ensure cleaning by their own employees, are assigned to apply similar measures according to their own conditions.
9. The Head of Marketing Department is assigned to ensure, in cooperation with the coordinator, unified information provided to employees, students and the public about the measures taken by USB.
10. Measures listed above are precautionary measures based on regulations and recommendations of the competent national authorities. I ask all USB staff and students to accept them with understanding and common sense, in order to avoid unnecessary panic on the one hand, and, on the other hand, not to endanger unnecessarily other people with whom we come into contact.

In České Budějovice, 02.03.2020
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