Hygiene and infection control concept of TU Darmstadt for SARS-CoV-2

Version 1.7
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1 Introduction

The following information and guidelines are based on the recommendations of the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) and the currently applicable ordinances of the State of Hesse. The coronavirus pandemic is a challenge touching all of society and requires all of us to act responsibly. TU Darmstadt decided to follow our current path by contributing to our joint efforts of containing the pandemic and protecting all members of the TU.

This hygiene and infection control concept applies to all members of TU Darmstadt in all buildings of TU Darmstadt including premises rented or leased by TU Darmstadt. It does not apply to those organisational units with which separate agreements have been negotiated (such as tenancy agreements for premises of TU Darmstadt). It also applies to all non-TU members who are frequenting TU Darmstadt spaces as guests or as employees of contractors working at TU Darmstadt. It must be ensured that these external parties are familiar with the hygiene and infection control concept as well.

Assessing risks for employees and staff at their respective workplaces and identifying and implementing the necessary protective counter measures are one of the key demands of §5 of the Arbeitsschutzgesetz (ArbSchG - Safety and Health at Work Act). Supervisors must produce risk assessments for every single workplace and must update them to reflect substantial changes in working conditions. For this reason, the risk assessment addendum “Setting up a workplace with regard to the coronavirus pandemic” is attached to the hygiene and infection control concept for your convenience. In this risk assessment, pandemic-specific risks and their corresponding protective counter measures have been added to the already existing risk assessment. Supervisors must complete this risk assessment form and implement the respective protective counter measures. The support team will advise supervisors as necessary.

Based on the higher-level hygiene and infection control concept of TU Darmstadt, a hygiene and infection control concept must be produced for all attendance courses and events (e.g. for laboratory work, project groups, excursions etc.) containing the necessary modifications and additions for the respective organisational unit; this concept must be sent to the support team gesundheit@tu-darmstadt.de. The support team will be happy to assist as necessary.

This hygiene concept (version 1.6.1) is applicable until revoked due to changing statutory provisions or newly imposed conditions by the local Gesundheitsamt Darmstadt-Dieburg (public health department).

Darmstadt, 20/04/2021

The President of TU Darmstadt

2 General rules of hygiene and infection control

2.1 Basic rules of conduct

Please observe the following general rules of conduct during all your activities:

- This obligation to wear medical masks does not apply to persons who cannot wear protective masks due to impairments of health or disability. A medical certificate indicating such an impairment or disability must be presented to the supervisor/manager.
- Observing the required distancing regulations has top priority for all hygiene and infection control measures. When carrying out your work, it is therefore necessary to always keep a minimum distance of 1.5 meters (4–5 steps) from all people around you whether indoors or outdoors.
• We would also like to draw your attention to the Corona-ArbSchV (SARS-CoV-2-Arbeitsschutzverordnung – occupational health and safety regulation) dated 21 January 2021 where it says in Section 2 “Maßnahmen zur Kontaktreduktion im Betrieb” (measures for contact reduction at the workplace):

“(5) Ist die gleichzeitige Nutzung von Räumen durch mehrere Personen erforderlich, so darf eine Mindestfläche von 10 Quadratmetern für jede im Raum befindliche Person nicht unterschritten werden, soweit die auszuführenden Tätigkeiten dies zulassen. Lassen die auszuführenden Tätigkeiten dies nicht zu, so hat der Arbeitgeber durch andere geeignete Schutzmaßnahmen den gleichwertigen Schutz der Beschäftigten sicherzustellen, insbesondere durch Lüftungsmaßnahmen und geeignete Abtrennungen zwischen den anwesenden Personen.“

(Inofficial translation: Should it prove necessary for rooms to be used by several people at the same time, the minimum area per person and room must not be less than 10 square meters, provided the tasks to be completed allow for it. Should the tasks to be completed not allow for it, the employer is required to provide the employees with equivalent protection through suitable protective measures, in particular ventilation measures and suitable separators between the persons present on site.)

• Should it become necessary in exceptional cases to reduce this minimum distance, everyone present is required to wear medical face masks.

• For this reason, you must have your personal hygiene material (medical face mask) with you at all times.

• Observe the cough and sneeze etiquette: Cough and sneeze into paper tissues or your bend arm. Discard your paper tissues after use immediately in a dustbin/garbage can.

• Wash your hands regularly for at least 20 seconds using soap and water.

• Keep your hands away from your face, i.e. do not touch your face.

• Do not touch others in greeting like shaking hands, hugging etc.

• Always keep a sufficient distance to other people particularly those showing symptoms of illness such as coughing, sneezing or fever.

2.2 Hygiene and infection control material

Every organisational unit (such as department, institute, research group, central services) is independently responsible for providing their employees and staff with the required material. Orders can be placed centrally via the Directorate III using this email address: dez-3-z@zv.tu-darmstadt.de.

2.2.1 Hand sanitiser

Please use hand sanitiser only if washing your hands with soap and water is not possible. Using hand sanitisers is not an adequate substitute for washing your hands regularly as detailed above.

2.2.2 Masks

The different types of masks available:

| Regular mouth-nose covers (common textile masks) | According to the decision of the Federal and State Conference, dated 19 January 2021, this type of mask should no longer be used. These mouth-nose covers are available in different shapes and are made of various materials, none of which are certified and, therefore, do not ensure any protective properties. |
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### Medical face masks
(such as surgical or procedure mask)

TU Darmstadt requests that all employees and staff members of TU Darmstadt wear this type of masks when using the traffic areas (such as corridors, staircases etc.) inside of university buildings.

Wearing this type of masks also applies to students, visitors and external contractors of TU Darmstadt until further notice.

Medical face masks are certified Class I medical devices (according to the Medical Device Directive 93/42/EEC). By standardising these masks, a defined protection level is ensured that is reached by the quality of the filter materials used and a design that is ergonomic and as form-fitting as possible.

### FFP2 masks (or the mask types N95 / KN95)

Respiratory protective devices or half masks (so-called “FFP masks” short for “filtering face piece” respirators) are components of personal protection equipment (PPE) within the framework of occupational health and safety. They are commonly known in the field of trade and craft as “protective dust mask”. They are white, often shaped like a dome or collapsible and protect against solid and liquid aerosols. Correctly fitting FFP masks sit tight on the face and provide personal and third-party protection. (Refer to the definition of the Bundesinstituts für Arzneimittel und Medizinprodukte)

FFP2 masks (without breathing valve) are used at TU Darmstadt for occupational health and safety reasons in the following cases:
- whenever the minimum distance of 1.5 meters (4–5 steps) between two or more employees or staff members cannot be maintained for more than 15 minutes in exceptional but justifiable cases to complete a task;
- by people who belong to a group at risk; and
- by passengers on official journeys.

For more information regarding the length of time recommended of wearing these masks, please refer to the webpages of the Berufsgenossenschaft für Gesundheitsdienst und Wohlfahrtspflege (BWG – a German statutory accident insurance provider for non-governmental health and welfare institutions).

A medical face mask is designed to primarily protect others from respiratory droplets and particles of your exhaled air. However, this is not an alternative to keeping the required minimum distance to other people. These masks are only a complementing infection control measure.

### How to put on a medical face mask:
- Touch a medical face mask on the outside only.
- Pick up the medical face mask by its elastic bands. Hold the medical face mask in front of your face.
- Pull both elastic bands behind your ears.
• Press the nose clip of the medical face mask firmly to your nose until the mask form-fits your nose and cheeks.
• Pull the medical face mask with your thumb and index finger down and past your chin.
• Put on your glasses (spectacles).

**How to take off a medical face mask:**
• Do not touch the medical face mask with your hands.
  Take hold of both elastic bands with both hands at the same time and pull them to the front.

### 2.2.3 Disposable gloves

Wearing disposable gloves is not necessary when observing proper and thorough hand-washing routines. It becomes necessary only whenever there are no hand-washing facilities nearby. When wearing disposable gloves, please note:
• Dry your hands well before putting on disposable gloves.
• Wear disposable gloves as briefly as possible (no longer than 2 hours at a time, otherwise the moisture trapped between gloves and skin will damage your skin).
• Do not touch the contaminated outside of disposable gloves when taking them off. Roll them off instead.
• Throw disposable gloves in the dustbin (garbage can) immediately after use.
• Should you be unable to wash your hands right away, use hand sanitiser instead.

### 2.2.4 Workplace separators

In principle workplace separators, made from plexiglass for instance, should only be used where people cannot keep a minimum distance of 1.5 m permanently, be it for workflow or technical reasons. Make sure that even if the workplace is separated, it is ventilated thoroughly and regularly. This applies particularly to areas that are frequented regularly and extensively by others, e.g. to receive counselling, to get information or material. This may also include laboratories and shop floors. For more information, read sections “3.5 Laboratory and shop floor operations” and “3.7 Workplaces open to the public.”

### 2.3 Indoor ventilation

Ventilate the rooms you are using thoroughly and regularly to reduce the number of potential causative organisms in the air. It is best to ventilate several times a day for 5 to 10 minutes. The simplest way to ventilate is by opening windows. This airing by opening the window must be done at start of work in any room and must be repeated regularly for as long as you work there. A ventilation (or airing) interval of 60 minutes for office rooms and of 20 minutes for meeting rooms is recommended. To this end, open the window completely to allow for maximum air exchange. This is called “Stoßlüften”, i.e. impact or surge ventilation. In rooms with room ventilation systems, manual ventilation by opening windows is usually not possible because these rooms are supplied with fresh air automatically via central control systems.

The use of recirculation units (fans, ventilators, air purifiers or cleaners, fan heaters etc.) is only permitted in offices that are used by one person, as these ventilators circulate aerosol matter around the room.

When ventilating rooms and hallways, do not use doorstops or similar to keep fire doors open. Fire doors must be able to close automatically for fire protection reasons.
2.4 Cleaning

All rooms are cleaned according to the usual cleaning intervals based on the pre-determined cleaning schedules which are available for reference at the organisational units or can be requested at the office in charge via reinigung@zv.tu-darmstadt.de.

Cleaning beyond the measures stated above will not be necessary according to the Robert Koch Institute: “To disinfect domestic and public areas and surfaces on a large scale routinely, even those frequently touched, is not recommended despite the current COVID pandemic. Instead cleaning these areas and surfaces appropriately should be first choice.” (Source: https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Reinigung_Desinfektion.html, status: 20/11/2020).

It is still very important to wash your hands regularly and thoroughly and to observe the general instructions on hygiene.

2.5 Workwear, personal protection equipment and work equipment

Workwear and personal protection equipment must not be shared with others. They are for personal use only. Work equipment such as tools should whenever possible, be used by one person only. Should this not be possible, this work equipment must be cleaned regularly. While at it, observe hand-washing routine as well.

2.6 Returning from travel

Your presence at work after a return from a business trip or holiday can only be granted under the following conditions. When returning from a non-risk area, take into account the considerations stated in No. 2.6.1; when returning from a risk area, take into account the requirements stated in No. 2.6.2.

A one-off negative test result shortly before or when entering Germany is not sufficiently certain to allow you to be present at work responsibly.

2.6.1 Returning from an area or country that is not at risk

- An up-to-date list of risk areas/risk states can be found on the website of the Robert Koch Institute. Again, please evaluate responsibly and carefully what risks and hazards you were exposed to during your trip, and what consequences they could have for you and your colleagues.
- If you are concerned that you may have been exposed to an increased risk of infection, you should contact your supervisor/manager and, if necessary, arrange for mobile working.
- Should you consider such a test, please take note of the information mentioned above.
- In case of organisational questions, please feel free to contact the Support Team by email: gesundheit@tu-darmstadt.de. In case of medical questions of an occupation-related nature, please contact the University Medical Service mas.

2.6.2 Returning from an area or country that is at risk

- An up-to-date list of risk areas/risk states can be found on the website of the Robert Koch Institute.
- You are required to inform your supervisor/manager about your return and to reach an agreement with him/her on mobile work for a period of up to 10 days.
- You are required to self-isolate at your private quarters immediately upon your return.
- Testing for coronavirus will be conclusive five days after your return entry at the earliest; therefore, do not get tested earlier. Only if the test result is negative and you do not show any other typical
symptoms of a COVID-19 infection, you will be permitted to reduce the period of mobile work and to return to your workplace on site.

- This also applies if a recognised test with a negative result has been taken upon entry or before departure from the country of travel.
- If a test or test result is available, this must be communicated to the supervisor/manager.

Beginning work in person without the measures mentioned earlier is not possible!

This rule also applies in case you have been in a travel area the past 10 days that was subsequently declared a risk state/risk area.

### 2.6.3 “High-incidence areas” and “virus-variant areas”

In addition to the already known group of risk areas, “high-incidence areas” and “virus-variant areas” are indicated: Risk areas. Tighter regulations for entering Germany from one of these areas have been introduced: Entry must be announced beforehand and a negative test result must be presented. For more detailed information, refer to the webpage of the German Federal Ministry of Health.

Please note: The quarantine regulations remain unaffected by the obligation to test. When entering Germany from high-incidence areas or virus-variant areas, the already applicable quarantine provisions apply to you, too, and you must self-isolate immediately upon entry (even if you tested negative).

### 2.7 How to deal with COVID-19 infected people

If you are working at TU-Darmstadt and feel symptoms such as coughing, fever and/or shortness of breath, inform your supervisor/manager or the Departmental Office and go home immediately. Get in touch with your general practitioner or the Gesundheitsamt (public health department) by phone to discuss how to proceed.

Should an employee or staff member call in sick to work because of a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 infection, we ask you to notify us via gesundheit@tu-darmstadt.de so we can initiate any further steps that may prove necessary together with you.

Naturally, we will handle all information and data involved confidentially. For further information please refer to the webpage of the Directorate IV: [https://www.intern.tu-darmstadt.de/verwaltung/dez_iv/corona_leitfaden_und_hygienekonzept_der_tu_darmstadt/index.de.jsp](https://www.intern.tu-darmstadt.de/verwaltung/dez_iv/corona_leitfaden_und_hygienekonzept_der_tu_darmstadt/index.de.jsp).

### 2.8 Keeping participation lists

For tracing chains of infection quickly in case of a confirmed COVID-19 infection, successful contact tracing must be ensured for all face-to-face events at TU Darmstadt (e.g. for courses and meetings outside your own work area). To this end, the following data is required:

- Name, first name
- Residential address
- Email address
- Telephone number
- Date of participation
For all on-site events, participation lists must be kept indicating each time they took place and who participated at a specific date. To document attendance in courses, the attendance list generated in TUCaN can be used. To this end, follow the instructions below:

1. By enrolling in the course via TUCaN, the students are properly identified. Their names and student registration numbers will be listed on the attendance list generated by TUCaN.
2. The attendance list indicating the enrolled participants, will be printed by the lecturer/university teacher to tick off all students present at a specific date.
3. Each participant needs to present his/her Athena Card or student identity card to be ticked off on the attendance list by the lecturer/university teacher before entering the room.
4. This list must be retained for four weeks and be forwarded to the Directorate IV (health team) in case of an infection.
5. This attendance list must be destroyed as specified by data protection regulations once the retention period of four weeks has expired.

The legal basis for attendance lists and for processing this data are Art. 5a Sec. 2, Art. 1 Sec. 2b lit. d CoKoBeV\(^1\). The provisions of the Articles 13\(^2\), 15\(^3\), 18\(^4\) and 20\(^5\) of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) regarding the obligation to provide information and the right to information on personal data shall not apply (Art. 5a Sec. 2, Art. 1 Sec. 2d lit. d CoKoBeV).

3 Hygiene measures case by case

3.1 Office work and meetings

The regulation to move working time to mobile work, if possible, applies until revoked. For more detailed and current information, refer to “Coronavirus – Instructions and Guidelines for Employees and Staff” under “Information A-Z” on the Department VII webpage. These also include regulations regarding gatherings on official business.

Should it be necessary to work on site, the following basic rules apply:

- Office workplaces should, if possible, be used alternately to ensure that only one person works in an office room at any given time.
- In consultation with the supervisor/manager, employees and staff members can agree on a combination of mobile work and work on site.

The number of face-to-face meetings must be restricted to the absolute minimum. Alternative online communication formats should be used instead. Should face-to-face meetings be absolutely required, the number of participants must be reduced, suitable rooms must be chosen, minimum safety distances must be observed, regular ventilation must be ensured (refer to item 2.3) and all participants must wear medical face masks.

For more information regarding working on site, refer to “Coronavirus – Instructions and Guidelines for Employees and Staff” under “Information A-Z” on the Department VII webpage.

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\(^1\) CoKoBeV, the ordinance on the restriction of social contacts and the operation of facilities and services due to the coronavirus pandemic (Corona-Kontakt- und Betriebsbeschränkungsverordnung), dated 7 May 2020; in the version of amendments come into force on 2 November 2020 by Art. 5 of the “Einundzwanzigste Verordnung zur Anpassung der Verordnungen zur Bekämpfung des Corona-Virus” (21st ordinance adapting the coronavirus control ordinances), dated 29 October 2020 (GVBl. S. 734)

\(^2\) Art. 13 GDPR Information to be provided where personal data are collected from the data subject (Privacy Policy)

\(^3\) Art. 15 GDPR Right of access by the data subject

\(^4\) Art. 18 GDPR Right to restriction of processing

\(^5\) Art. 20 GDPR Right to data portability
3.2 Use of shared spaces

When using shared spaces such as break rooms and tea kitchens, you must observe the minimum distance of 1.5 m (4-5 steps). Breaks must be taken per person at different times to avoid direct contact. When using tea kitchens, you must observe customary hygiene rules regarding the use of cutlery and dishes as well as tea towels. Do not use tea towels made of fabric, wash cutlery and dishes with hot water or use the dishwasher instead.

3.3 Using changing rooms, toilets and washrooms

In toilet facilities, do not stand around the sinks as a group at the same time.

Shared showering facilities will generally remain closed until further notice.

Please observe the minimum distance to other people in the changing rooms as well. Should it be impossible to maintain such a minimum distance due to room design, organisational measures must be put in place such as one-person access at a time only.

Regular ventilation of sanitary facilities must be ensured. If changing rooms are used, ventilation must also occur after each use.

3.4 Mobile work

Workflows must be organised and designed in such a way that working on site at TU Darmstadt will be reduced to the bare minimum. Employees and staff members should continue to opt for working from home in consultation with their supervisor/manager whenever possible.

For more detailed and current information, refer to “Coronavirus – Instructions and Guidelines for Employees and Staff” (English sub-link found on webpage “Corona-Virus – Handlungsanweisungen für Beschäftigte”) and „Working mobile from home on a longer-term basis during the coronavirus pandemic“ (English sub-link found on webpage “Längerfristiges mobiles Arbeiten in der Pandemiezeit – Voraussetzungen und Konditionen”) under “Information A-Z” on the Department VII webpage.

3.5 Laboratory and shop floor operations

Necessary work in laboratories can continue provided the general hygiene and infection control measures are observed. In addition, the following safety precautions must be observed, particularly in rooms that are used by more than one person at the same time. Should it not be possible to ensure a safety distance of 1.5 m (4-5 steps) at all times:

a. Organisational measures ensuring safety distances in rooms and buildings must be put in place, such as a guiding system, signposting, visiting rules, re-organisation of workflows etc.

b. Should there be areas where safety distances cannot be ensured at all times, those persons working or spending time in these areas must wear medical face masks (for instance when assessing products).

c. Should a laboratory workplace require a lengthy task activity that makes minimum distancing impossible, a separation to adjoining workplaces is recommended (like a plexiglass divider).

d. To prevent direct contact, time offsets for starting/ending work and breaks are required. In addition, offset working hours need to be arranged and mutually agreed both by supervisors/managers and employees/staff.
e. Should several groups work one after the other on the same day in the same laboratory, the respective laboratory manager must ensure that the used work surfaces are being cleaned before turning this workspace over to the next group. For work equipment used during laboratory work, refer to section “2.5 Workwear, personal protection equipment and work equipment”.

f. Regular and thorough ventilation must be ensured (refer to point 2.3).

All supplementing hygiene and infection control measures must correspond with the applicable requirements regarding safety and health protection at work.

3.6 Trainees and apprentices at workplaces

Should it be necessary for trainees and apprentices to be present on site, the workflows must be organised in such a way that work can be resumed safely while adhering to the applicable hygiene and infection control measures. The instructor in charge is responsible for setting up a safe working environment. In addition to this requirement, each workplace environment must be assessed (such as specific requirements for laboratory work, shop floors or offices). To ensure full infection control, processes and work assignments need to be organised in such a way that parts of them can also be done from home. If necessary, respective measures need to be coordinated with the training/education provider in charge.

3.7 Workplaces open to the public

Once TU Darmstadt is open to the public again (e.g. for personal counselling at the offices for student affairs, opening of information desks and counters, central post offices), installing fixed plexiglass dividers for sneeze and cough protection is recommended in addition to the other general hygiene measures, provided there is enough space. Alternatively, medical face masks must be used by both parties. Only one student or person seeking advice is allowed to enter and be in the room at a time. In case of information desks and counters, a minimum distance of 1.5 m (4-5 steps) must be maintained.

3.8 Working outdoors

A minimum distance of 1.5 meters (4-5 steps) must also be observed between people working outside (technical services, HRZ employees, gardeners, postal services) and possible passers-by. If the tasks involved cannot be done while observing a minimum distance, then all involved must wear medical face masks.

Tools and equipment shared with others need to be cleaned after each use before handing them over. Wash your hands regularly. Should this not be possible because there are no hand-washing facilities nearby, use hand sanitiser instead.

3.9 Use of university vehicles

Have university vehicles be used by one person per vehicle per day only. Those in charge of university vehicles must provide non-alcoholic disinfection tissues so the user can wipe down frequently-touched surfaces such as steering wheel, back mirror, gearshift lever, Radio/GPS controls).

Should it be necessary that not just the driver but another person rides along at the same time in any of the other university vehicles (such as transporters, lorries, vans or service vehicles of the technical services, the HRZ and the Directorate IV), the passenger must wear an FFP2 mask and must sit on the back bench, if available.
4 Studying and teaching

Teaching online via digital channels applies to the winter semester 2020/21 and the summer semester 2021. Exceptions are possible only for courses requiring compulsory attendance. Every event in person on site, including practicals and excursions, must be justified and must be coordinated in advance with the responsible Departmental Office. Regardless of the approval procedure, a hygiene concept must be prepared and sent to gesundheit@tu-darmstadt.de. Please also note point 2.8 (keeping participation lists) above, which applies to these events.

Teaching online via digital channels applies to the winter semester 2020/21 and the summer semester 2021. Exceptions are possible only for courses requiring compulsory attendance. Every event in person on site, including practicals and excursions, must be justified and must be coordinated in advance with the responsible Departmental Office. However, regardless of the approval procedure, a hygiene concept must be prepared and sent to gesundheit@tu-darmstadt.de. Please also note point 2.8 (keeping participation lists) above, which applies to these events.

4.1 Final theses and laboratory work
Theoretical Bachelor's and Master's theses can be registered at any time.
For completing or registering experimental final theses and laboratory work, however, the following two requirements must be met:
   a. The supervisor in charge must be on site and must admit students/research assistants personally.
   b. The supervisor in charge must ensure that the hygiene regulations stated in section “2. General rules of hygiene and infection control” are observed.

Presence in the building must be limited to the experimental part of the work only.

4.2 Excursions
Should it not be possible to offer substitute courses, excursions are a good alternative provided the general hygiene requirements are observed.

4.3 Oral exams
For oral exams on site, the following steps must be taken:
   • The number of participants must be limited to the bare minimum.
   • Suitable rooms must be chosen where a minimum distance of 1.5 m (4-5 steps) between everyone involved can be maintained.
   • The regulations stated in section “2. General rules of hygiene and infection control” are observed.
For detailed information regarding the organisation and holding of oral exams, please refer to “Holding examinations and courses under corona conditions” on the webpage of the Directorate II.

4.4 Written exams
For current and detailed information regarding the procedure and organisation of written exams, please refer to “Holding examinations and courses under corona conditions” on the webpage of the Directorate II.

4.5 Wearing medical face masks
Medical face masks must be worn at all times when using the traffic areas (such as corridors, staircases etc.) inside of buildings of TU Darmstadt and in all course and meetings rooms as well.
As of 25 January 2021, medical face masks (minimum requirement: surgical masks) must be worn the entire time during written exam.
4.6 Access to specific courses

The Executive Board can make participation in specific courses subject to self-testing on site. Participants must self-test before the course starts and must confirm that they have tested negative.

Anyone showing a positive result is not permitted to participate in the course. In such a case, section 2.7 of the hygiene concept applies to the person(s) concerned.

Same-day negative self-tests, rapid PoC antigen tests or PCR tests are considered equivalent proof.
5 Addendum: Risk Assessment “Setting up a workplace with regard to the coronavirus pandemic”

The risk assessment “Setting up a workplace with regard to the coronavirus pandemic” supplements the already existing risk assessment by including pandemic-specific risks and their corresponding protective counter measures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Risks</th>
<th>Does not apply to work area</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Possible protective measures</th>
<th>Defined measures</th>
<th>Date implemented</th>
<th>Responsible:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>There is no hand washing facility near the workplace (for instance, when working outdoors or with transport services).</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Provide hand sanitiser.</td>
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<td>The minimum distance of 1.5 m (4-5 steps) between individual persons cannot be maintained.</td>
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<td>Wherever minimum safety distances cannot be kept for a short time, medical face masks must be worn by everyone present. FFP2 masks (without breathing valve) are required to be worn in exceptional and justifiable cases only where tasks must be completed jointly by two or more employees or staff over a period of several minutes. (For more information, refer to section 2.2)</td>
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<td>Multi-occupation of rooms or workplaces</td>
<td>At worksites with direct “customer contact”, protective shields or screens must be installed.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third-party access to workplaces (persons not belonging to the work area)</td>
<td>Reduce the number of people working in the same rooms per day by offsetting working hours on site and in combination with mobile work. Rearrange furniture and reduce number of seats. Avoid having more than one person at a time in an office room.</td>
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<td>Specify and put up access regulations. Mark floor with required minimum distance markings.</td>
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<td>Insufficient ventilation</td>
<td>Ventilate rooms regularly by opening windows (at least once per hour for 10 minutes). Turn on technical ventilation systems (where available and if not centrally controlled). Do not use ventilators.</td>
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<td>Shared break rooms</td>
<td>Rearrange seating and schedule break times or provide additional space.</td>
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<td>Team work required</td>
<td>Keep a minimum distance of 1.5 m (4-5 steps). Set up fixed teams and rotate complete teams when working in shifts to prevent cross-infections between teams.</td>
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<td>Hazardous solo work</td>
<td>Also during the pandemic, hazardous work must not be done alone. Maintain minimum distance while working. Coordinate hazardous tasks with the leading occupational safety officer.</td>
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<td>Business trips</td>
<td>Reduce business trips to a minimum. For more information, refer to section 3.9 of the hygiene concept of TU Darmstadt.</td>
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