

Information about Covid-19 (Coronavirus SARS-CoV-2) for Exchange Students

Current situation in Germany and Mannheim with regard to Covid-19 cases

In Germany, there are currently 639 confirmed infections with the new coronavirus. In Mannheim, the number of confirmed cases has now risen to five.

The latest patient is a 35-year-old student of the University of Mannheim who was in contact with one of the other four confirmed patients. The student is in quarantine at home. The Gesundheitsamt Mannheim (health department) is currently identifying further contacts, reaching out to them and guiding them during their self-quarantine.

The Gesundheitsamt Mannheim, together with the respective authorities of the Land of Baden-Wuerttemberg, has carefully assessed the situation and the risks and has ordered self-quarantine for the few individuals who were in direct, prolonged contact with the patient. The people concerned have been informed and contacted directly by the Gesundheitsamt.

For all students and members of DHBW Mannheim, there is no increased risk of an infection. The experts' assessment is still that there is no need to take any further measures.

We will keep you updated on the latest developments.

6 March 2020

Risk Areas

Risk areas according to the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) are currently:

China, particularly the Hubei province (incl. the city of Wuhan)

South Korea: Gyeongsangbuk-do province (northern Gyeongsang) and the city of Daegu

Iran: Ghom province, Teheran

Italy: South Tyrol (Bolzano province) in the Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol region, Emilia-Romagna region, Lombardy region, the city of Vo in the Padua province of the Venetia region.

For current information on risk areas, please refer to the websites of the RKI:

https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Risikogebiete.html?nn=13490888 in German and

https://www.rki.de/EN/Home/homepage_node.html;jsessionid=C442ADEBE5103AE1FFDDE90727DE29D0.internet062 in English.

In General

If one of the following cases occur, contact Mr. Muench and the International Office (IO) immediately at muench@dhbw-mannheim.de and international@dhbw-mannheim.de (you can also use our facebook group and the mobile numbers on the information sheet *In Case of Emergency* which was part of your welcome package):

- You had contact with a person who is infected with the Corona-Virus;
- You had contact with a person, who had contact with another person who is infected with the Corona-Virus;
- You had contact with a person who visited or travelled through one of the risk-areas listed by the RKI within the last 14 days;
- You visited or travelled yourself through one of the risk-areas listed by the RKI within the last 14 days;

If one of the cases occur stay at home until you get further notice from the IO. In case of flu-like symptoms, stay at home and contact a physician or the health authorities by phone first! In addition, contact the International Office at international@dhbw-mannheim.de immediately.

If there are any classes with mandatory participation or (partial) examinations during this time, please contact your teacher directly. DHBW Mannheim is eager to find solutions that do not put students at a disadvantage due to the current situation. In case you would like to take an academic leave of absence, please contact Ms. Yulia Uksekova in the International Office.

We also recommend that students do not travel to risk areas. In case you are traveling to non-risk areas, please check your destination regarding the risks of infection and cancel your trip if necessary.

In order to prevent possible transmission of any infection, please pay attention to proper hand hygiene and cough and sneeze etiquette (cover your mouth with your bent elbow or tissue when coughing/sneezing), avoid touching eyes, nose and mouth, and keep your distance from sick persons (1-2 meters).

For additional tips on hygiene measures, please have a look at the leaflet which the IO has uploaded to our facebook group.

Moreover, please stay up-to-date on the situation! Inform yourself on the websites of the RKI regularly and consider the current information and recommendations.

For further questions, please contact the IO at any time.

Further Information:

World Health Organization (WHO):

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019>

WHO myth busters throw a light on the some general coronavirus rumors and myths:

<https://www.who.int/emergencies/diseases/novel-coronavirus-2019/advice-for-public/myth-busters>