



## **Current COVID-19 regulations by the federal government and the state of Brandenburg – Employees-list-mail from Karsten Gerlof, 18 March 2021**

Dear university employees,

In the summit meeting between the federal and state governments in early March, the federal and state governments agreed on some easing of the COVID-19 lockdown, for example, for private meetings and for schools and daycare centers. The states of Brandenburg and Berlin have adapted their respective state ordinances accordingly and extended their validity until March 28, 2021.

For employment matters, not much has changed with regard to the ordinances. The SARS-Cov-2 Occupational Safety Ordinance of the Federal Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (BMAS) with its so-called “home office requirement” has also been extended largely unchanged until April 30, 2021: [www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/verordnung-zu-homeoffice-1841120](http://www.bundesregierung.de/breg-de/aktuelles/verordnung-zu-homeoffice-1841120). For you, the employees of the university, this means that the regulations currently in place will continue to apply, as last outlined in my e-mail dated February 18, 2021. The Vice President for Teaching and Studies has already provided information about current changes in teaching and examination operations in an e-mail dated March 8, 2021.

In addition, the federal and state governments have agreed to provide citizens with regular opportunities to get a COVID-19 rapid test. The implementation in municipalities and companies is to take place gradually until the beginning of April. We will probably be able to provide you with details about testing offers for UP employees in the coming days. However, capacities will be limited and can be offered only complementary to public testing opportunities that you should also use. For information on testing opportunities at your place of residence, please contact your local town or municipal administration.

The Hygiene Concept of the university continues to apply and is binding for everyone. Its latest version is available at the following link: [https://www.uni-potsdam.de/fileadmin/projects/presse/docs/Corona-Webseiten/Hyg.Konzept\\_8.3.21.2\\_eng\\_END.pdf](https://www.uni-potsdam.de/fileadmin/projects/presse/docs/Corona-Webseiten/Hyg.Konzept_8.3.21.2_eng_END.pdf). It is to ensure safe university operations during the pandemic. However, this will only succeed with the help of all of you. Please follow all of the rules laid out in the concept as far as they pertain to your work environment. Essential key points such as the minimum distance of 1.50m and contact reductions must also be observed during work breaks and when moving about in order to keep the risk of infection to a minimum.

You can find further extensive, continuously updated information on all COVID-19 regulations on the websites: [www.uni-potsdam.de/en/presse/press/latest-news/coronavirus](http://www.uni-potsdam.de/en/presse/press/latest-news/coronavirus).

Kind regards,

Karsten Gerlof