

## **Update: Coronavirus regulations for employees – Employees-list-mail from Karsten Gerlof, 28 June 2021**

Dear employees of the university,

As of July 1, 2021, there will be changes to the so-called Coronavirus Occupational Safety Ordinance (“Corona-Arbeitsschutzverordnung”) of the Federal Ministry of Labor (BMAS). This will also end the so-called “home office requirement”. Nevertheless, it is still compulsory to take all necessary measures to reduce operationally required personal contacts and to reduce the simultaneous use of rooms by more than one person to the operationally necessary minimum.

So there will still be a **high proportion of working from home** over the summer, particularly for office work or comparable activities. Your supervisors will adjust the respective home office concepts accordingly, if necessary. The home office regulations agreed with the staff councils will continue to apply (for academic staff members see [Guidelines on Remote Work](#), for employees in administrative and technical services see [Home Office Key Issues](#)).

The **Hygiene Concept of the university** will also continue to apply and is binding for everyone. Its latest version is available on the [COVID-19 info pages of the UP](#). The Hygiene Concept 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 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.

According to Section 5 subsection 3 of the current regulations for the handling of the coronavirus (“SARS-CoV-2-Umgangsverordnung”) of the state of Brandenburg, if the incidence stays below 20 for more than five days, and this is currently the case in Potsdam, the obligation to provide evidence of a negative COVID test is waived in many cases, e.g. also for courses or examinations at the university. Due to low demand for the tests, the provider has decided to close the **COVID testing facilities** at Am Neuen Palais, Golm and Griebnitzsee Campus from the beginning of July. Employees who do not feel sufficiently protected on site at the university by the Hygiene Concept and the other protective measures for the workplace can request COVID self-tests from the Occupational Safety Unit (please dial -2383 from your office phone).

You can find further information that is continuously updated on the UP’s COVID-19 info pages, especially in the category [Information for employees](#).

Kind regards,  
Karsten Gerlof