
BRIEFING

**ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATIONS TAKEN DUE TO THE PROTECTION
AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC**

(Status: 3rd of June 2021)

The ELTE Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body (JOKT) which has been established by the [3/2020 \(II.28\) Joint Directive of the Rector and the Chancellor of the University](#), based on its authorization in the directive, considering the guidelines issued by the Maintainer, sums up in this BRIEFING all obligations and calls concerning the protective measurements in the closing period of the spring semester in the 2020/2021 academic year for the institution and University Citizens, who are required to adhere to and consider these obligations and calls.

According to the second phase of emergency state protective measures detailed in the 234/2021 (V.6) Government Decree “the rector of the higher education institution may decide to organize the education – especially the practical training of students, and the exams requiring students’ presence according to the regulations of training and examination – with personal attendance complying with the required protective measurements”. The [1/2021 \(V.10.\) Rector’s Directive](#) authorized the deans and directors of institutes with specific legal status to grant written permission to reorganize courses, reschedule in blocks the supplementary laboratory exercises and related examinations that were cancelled throughout the spring semester, hold partial or complete entrance examinations, organize summer exercises and field practices that require physical presence from participants.

On the basis of received authorization, further provisions related to the 2020/2021 academic year and to the **preparation of the 2021/2022 academic year** shall be determined by the Epidemiological Operational Coordinating Body of ELTE – amended with the BRIEFING published on 10th of May 2021, indicating **changes in bold** and ~~the repealed provisions crossed out~~ as follows.

1. The spring semester of the 2020/2021 academic year shall continue in distance education and examination with the exceptions set out in point 2 below. Examinations shall not be organized with the requirement of students’ presence (including in particular thesis defenses, final exams, complex exams, doctoral exams, workshop discussions, and doctoral defenses), regardless of their location. Final exams must be held in absentia according to the regulations previously developed. In view of this, the current rules of the transitional study and examination regulations for distance education and examination can be found at [this link](#).
2. Notwithstanding the regulations of point 1, the dean or director may give **(may have given)** written permission for
 - a) the reorganization of the course [cf. the new (4a) paragraph of article 54 of the HKR amended by TVSZ 7a.],
 - b) in view of absentee education regulations, the rescheduling in blocks of the supplementary laboratory exercises and related examinations that were cancelled throughout the spring semester,
 - c) examinations related to the courses listed in points a) and b),
 - d) partial- or complete entrance examinations,
 - e) summer exercises, field practices

to be organized with the requirement of students' presence. In relation to point d), in the case of the teacher training entrance examinations, the Director General of the Teacher Training Centre is entitled to issue the license.

3. The final examination committee's report shall be authenticated by the high-security electronic signature of any member, or by document authentication tracked through identification (AVDH available on the client gate [Ügyfélkapu]) and in the absence of these conditions, through a signed and scanned paper.
4. (External) traineeships may only continue in attendance if the rules and regulations of the training location allow.
5. Students are allowed to visit the university buildings for reasons and for a period of time that is absolutely necessary for the continuation of their studies and research activities and their stay here. Students who have a certain kind of employment relationship with the University (for example a special-order contract) continue performing their duties in connection with that legal relationship. Students are allowed to continue their already started research activities.
6. Student residence halls are open for students with special permissions and for international students. Students who require a place at a student residence hall can send an e-mail to the director of the student residence hall or to the central e-mail address (kollegium@kancellaria.elte.hu). Students moving to the dormitory must have a protection certificate (or alternatively a medical certificate for the contraindication to vaccination and a negative PCR test). All rules of personal hygiene and community behavior must be strictly followed and maintained in the accommodation. Residents who violate the dormitory policy, supplemented with regard to emergency and epidemiological circumstances, must be evicted from the premises.

Only healthy people who do not show symptoms of the coronavirus disease may stay in colleges/student residence halls. In case of any respiratory symptoms, the infirmary should be used until the case is clarified. The designated dormitory accommodations (Damjanich utca Dormitory, Kőrösi Csoma Sándor Dormitory, Nagytétényi út Dormitory, as well as Bibó István College and Eötvös College) are open for the rest of the academic year and during the summer holidays. In the remaining period of the academic year, those who request placement in open dormitories on an equitable basis may apply by e-mail to the head of the dormitory. Summer dormitory accommodation is applied for in the Neptun system. Only a person with an immunity certificate can move into the dormitory, or alternatively with a medical certificate that serves as an exemption from vaccination and a negative PCR test. For foreign students we provide quarantine accommodation and separated accommodation until the vaccination is received. All personal hygiene rules, epidemiological safety measures and regulations regarding community behaviour must be strictly followed in the accommodation.

7. **In dormitories, hosting guests is possible in the same way as before, if the guest has an immunity certificate and is not subject to quarantine obligations. On events at the dormitories, the rules for holding events during the exam period apply, thus no event shall be organized during the exam period. Individual and team sports are allowed on the dormitory's outdoor sports fields.**
8. **In addition to University Citizens, guests can also enter the University's education buildings to carry out tasks related to university activities.** The rules for entry into the University's educational buildings, introduced during the autumn of 2020, will continue to apply, thus, the continuation of fever measurement upon entry and hand disinfection. **The use of masks in confined spaces is still mandatory. The immunity certificate does not exempt people from these regulations.** These rules also apply during field practices, and other educational events and activities held in other external locations organized by the University.

9. ~~Until contrary provision, the University does not organize graduation ceremonies and doctoral graduation ceremonies. Graduation certificates are electronically issued uninterruptedly. In case of doctoral graduation ceremonies, the ordering of emergency situation is considered a fair special reason, thus the oaths can be made in written form and the doctoral degree can be conferred outside of the framework of a ceremonial session.~~

The dean may decide to organize the year-end and the faculty graduation ceremony with personal attendance. The dean may also decide the number of guests who can attend the ceremony in addition to the students and the leadership of the faculty. All attendees (including students, university leaders, contributing organizers and guests except for minors) can attend the ceremony by previously presenting their immunity certificate (plastic card or mobile application). The introduction and closing of the event (entry, exit) as well as the ceremony should be organized and conducted in a way to avoid crowds, allowing participants to keep distance. Guests must wear masks at indoor events. The diploma will be delivered by post to the students who are not able to attend the graduation ceremony.

10. **The doctoral graduation ceremony is organized with personal attendance of the graduating doctoral students, the university leaders, and the organizers. All attendees can participate at the ceremony with an immunity certificate. Guests can only join the event online, through live streaming of the ceremony. Upon request, the oath can be made in written form outside of the framework of the ceremonial session, for those who will not be present at the ceremony due to the epidemiological emergency situation.**
11. **The JOKT strongly recommends for all University Citizens to take the opportunity to be vaccinated. In the next academic year, no one can plead to the absence of their vaccination in order to be exempted from the general presence regulations or internships bound to immunity due to occupational safety measures; additionally, all university events can be attended only with proof of immunity.**
12. Sport facilities may function under the terms of their applicable legislations.
13. The University's public collections, open-air exhibitions, and gardens may be visited under the terms of their applicable legislations.
14. The rental service of university libraries is available, but the reading rooms will not be open until September 2021.
15. The normal operation of the University is continuous. Thus, all lecturers, researchers, teachers, and staff are obliged to work. In addition to the requirement to maintain continuous operation, workplace managers may allow work from home **in the ongoing academic year.**
16. **The Quaestura Office will be conducting its client services with personal attendance based on reserved appointments from 14 June 2021 at its central office (Egyetem Tér 5.) pertaining to the shortened opening hours in the exam period and summer months. Abreast of the services with personal attendance, the electronic and postal services remain in operation.**
17. Virtual administration at the University will be maintained. Employees can make official statements using their office email address within the organization. Here, too, we draw the attention of the employees to the fact that they may make valid legal statements with document authentication (such as labour and economical related documents) through the document identification offered by the client gate (Ügyfélkapu).
18. The operation of practicing schools and reserved public educational institutions is subject to legislations and the regulations established by the public sector management.

19. The JOKT still does not recommend traveling abroad for its staff or students, either for research or study purposes or for private purposes. The university provides reimbursement (at the expense of its own institutional or project resources as well) only for travel for those who specifically request it, firmly take on the health and cancellation risks associated with the trip, the host party firmly state that they can receive guests, and that they have obtained protection (from vaccination) until the start date of the trip, after 15 days of receiving the ~~second vaccination~~ **full dose of vaccination. There is possibility to accept foreign guests with respect to the applicable legislative framework upon entering the country and the regulations pertaining to the staying in university buildings.**
20. University bodies organize their operations and decision-making processes online.
21. ~~Events and gatherings may only be held through online broadcasting and no more than 10 people can be in the same place at the same time.~~
22. Recommended and mandatory absenteeism cases remain with similar terms as before.

In view of the high risk, in addition to the legal obligation, the ELTE Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body (JOKT) also obliges University Citizens who have not yet obtained protection from the vaccination **(they do not have an immunity certificate or medical certificate that serves as an exemption from vaccination)** and have been in direct contact with a person infected with the coronavirus in the last 10 days to stay away from the University; or if they are currently under contact examination.

Employees who are unable to take up their job as described above must file a report to their immediate supervisor and perform their tasks and other duties in accordance with the rules of working from home for a period of 10 days. After the asymptomatic waiting period, they must get to work at their workplace.

Our employees who are in voluntary or official quarantine are obliged to participate in online (distance) education as well as in other (online) tasks and activities with students, even during their absence from the University.

All our employees are required to contribute beyond their normal responsibilities to ensure the continuity of university operations. In the unlikely event, that a lecturer is prevented from holding a course in online education despite the possibility of working from home, because of serious illness, the issue of holding the course should be resolved at faculty level by taking over or replacing the course.

Recommended absenteeism

We continue to ask our professor emeritus, senior or health-compromised educators, researchers and staff to **stay away from university community in the near future if they have not obtained vaccination protection**. Should you need any special care or require technical assistance in order to continue online educational activities, please inform us immediately.

23. We urge all University Citizens to follow the personal requirements of the epidemiological control. We ask you to comply with the requirements in a strict and consistent manner, especially the regulations regarding the use of masks, social distancing, curfew, and personal hygiene. The University draws the attention of its Citizens to the importance and need for vaccination and asks them to take the first and second vaccine as well.

Additional common rules regarding the immunity certificate

- 24. In the event of this BRIEFING, or the law linking the performance of any act (entry, participation, etc.) to the possession of a protection certificate, all University Citizens, participants, and guests are obligated to present their protection certificate at any time at the request of the organizers or other University Citizens performing their responsibilities, in order for them to identify the holder of the immunity certificate.**
- 25. The organizers and the persons controlling the access to the buildings are obliged and entitled to request the presentation of the immunity certificate, if this BRIEFING or the law links the performance of any act (access, participation, etc.) to the possession of an immunity certificate.**
- 26. If this BRIEFING or the law links the performance of any act (entry, participation, etc.) to the possession of an immunity certificate all University Citizens, as well as participants and guests must leave the University building immediately in case they do not have such a certificate or refuse to present it.**
- 27. The University considers any deception or abuse of the immunity certificate to be a serious breach of duty.**

On the preparations for the 2021/22 academic year

- 28. The University intends to start the academic year of 2021/22 with personal attendance. While maintaining the priority of personal knowledge transfer, the University intends to preserve some of the well-established forms of digital education, so the forthcoming amendment to the Academic Regulations for Students will bring online and hybrid solutions developed during the pandemic into normal operation. The details of the regulation will become final by a decision of the Senate after the university consultation of the proposed amendment.**
- 29. The JOKT is already drawing the attention of University Citizens to the fact that from the first semester of the 2021/2022 academic year, the lack of vaccination protection alone will not entitle our students to have an exceptional study schedule with distance education, and our employees (educators and education-research support staff) to work from home.**
- 30. Preparations for international mobility and travel abroad from the 2021/2022 academic year can be started by considering that the actual travel depends on the epidemic situation.**
- 31. The organization of domestic and international events due in the 2021/22 academic year may be prepared taking into account that, if justified by the domestic or international epidemic situation, they will be suspended and cancelled.**
- 32. On the preparation of freshman camps and orientation days**

In 2020, Eötvös Loránd University did not organize freshman camps in order to protect students and organizers in view of the spread of the covid-19 coronavirus epidemic. To facilitate the integration of new students, we held orientation days with outdoor programs, maintaining the rules of keeping distance, mask wear, and general hygiene.

For the academic year of 2021/22 we are still making preparations in accordance with the epidemic situation, but the emergence and widespread access to vaccines will open up new opportunities for student integration programs.

Therefore, by the summer of 2021, according to our current forecasts, we are preparing freshman camps in such a way that ensures their safe organization and attendance with increased caution. Central to the protection against the virus is getting vaccinated, which provides the greatest protection against both infection and contamination.

Even with the utmost caution, we reserve the right to cancel freshman camps, even in the last days prior to the event considering the evolution of the epidemic. Should this be the case, all applicants will be refunded.

Conditions for participation:

We recommend vaccination to all high school students, applicants and particularly to those, who have applied for any of the programmes at ELTE to take the opportunity of vaccination after the matriculation exams.

Only students who have protection certificate can participate at the freshman camp. In order to enter the freshman camp (or to start the joint trip), the participant must present the immunity certificate or certify their immunity through the EESZ-application, and in case of diaspora and foreign students, any other certificate which is accepted in Hungary.

Immunity certificate is required for organisers and guests as well to participate at the freshman camps.

Conditions for organisation:

Freshman camps are organised by the ELTE Szolgáltató Kft. together with the University Students' Union.

Medical staff will be present in the camps and a patient room will be maintained. Isolation of persons with fever, separated monitoring of participants with respiratory symptoms, and completion of further epidemiological tasks shall be provided.

Checking the protection certificate is the duty and responsibility of the organisers of the camp.

The organisers of the camp are obliged to inform the participants of the freshman camp about the institutional obligations taken due to the protection against the pandemic, especially this BRIEFING and its current version, and to make available the relevant rules at any time.

The nature of the programs:

[The rules](#) for freshman camps introduced in 2015 must be fully applied.

The organisers of the freshman camps will be trained in the psychological support of the participants, in recognizing and dealing with problems at first hand, and we provide psychological counselling in all camps.

In terms of the programs, emphasis should be placed on methods and solutions that best-serve community building, leading to the incorporation of the forces inherent in the community. At the same time, programs need to be designed to provide support in case (unexpectedly) digital switchover should take place.

Programs (games) should be organized primarily outdoors, and close contacts should be avoided as much as possible. Night rest must be provided; therefore, a program that contains participants being woken-up at night must not be organized.

Orientation days:

In addition to freshman camps, there is a possibility to organize orientation days that, besides providing a community experience, prepare students for the university experience with a focus on learning and their chosen profession. Orientation days can be held in university buildings, otherwise the rules set for the freshman camp should be applied.

We would like to thank all University Citizens for adjusting to the extraordinary circumstances created by the pandemic, and continuously completing their studies, fulfilling teaching and research activities, serving on the operation of the University, and complying with the regulations established due to the epidemic situation. **We also thank our prospective students for respecting and accepting the requirements set forth in this BRIEFING.**

Budapest, 10th of May 2021.

Eötvös Loránd University
Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body