



## BRIEFING

### ON ESTABLISHING TEMPORARY SPECIAL REGULATION OF EDUCATION AND EXAMINATION DUE TO THE FOURTH WAVE OF THE COVID-19 CORONAVIRUS EPIDEMIC

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, sums up in this BRIEFING the main weekly trends (I.) in monitoring how affected university citizens are by the epidemic and based on them, to mitigate the consequences of the fourth wave, and to help successfully close the semester, it publishes a temporary special regulation of education and examination (II.):

#### I.

Starting from 6 September 2021 we have been monitoring how University citizens are affected by the Covid-19 epidemic in weekly surveys (<https://covidkerdoiv.elte.hu/>) and their (informal) experiences on the spreading of the virus at the University. Based on the surveys, it is visible that the epidemic wave have reached the University, the number of infected University citizens significantly increased. In the Covid-positive (or suspicious) cases it is asked whether there were any signs that the infection was contracted at the territory of ELTE or whether it could have been spreading there. This piece of data is to be treated especially carefully as infected people can only have information about the possibility of spreading the virus (and not the concrete infection itself) and with the magnitude of the epidemic right now, the infection could have happened at another place, outside of the University. In the surveys, the responses overwhelmingly name small classes as the place of potential infection. To analyze this section, the survey expanded and it gives space to elaborate on the topic. **We ask you to keep filling out the survey weekly!** The detailed data and analysis of the survey is published on our website.

We would like to emphatically remind every University citizen that it is compulsory to wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth in communal spaces (especially in classrooms, customer service offices, corridors). The only exemptions from this regulation are the professors who are teaching lectures/seminars/practice lessons.

Regardless of the development of the epidemic, the basic health regulations need to be kept.

**The buildings, facilities and classes of the University can only be visited by healthy people who do not exhibit any symptoms of coronavirus.**

#### II.

As a result of the above mentioned monitoring, in agreement with the leadership of the University and the Student' Union, the JOKT has decided that besides the general safety measures further regulations are to be introduced.

The JOKT establishes a temporary special regulation of education and examination (TVSZ) for the academic year to help infected University citizens stay at home and to harmonize the fulfillment of academic demands with the increasing number of infected people:

The TVSZ gives two new tools to handle the spreading of the epidemic. (1) In general the in-person teaching continues, however, the **dean can deviate from the planned education arrangement form** of certain courses temporarily or for the whole of the study term. (2) **We create new regulations on student absences**, supplementing the generally used practices.

The ELTE Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body (JOKT) regulated the measures that needed to be taken for starting and continuing the new academic year in its [BRIEFING](#) that was published on 30 August 2021 and the JOKT maintains these measures. In addition, it establishes a temporary special regulation of education and examination (TVSZ) for the 2021/2022 academic year's Autumn semester:

	<b>ORGANISATIONAL AND OPERATIONAL REGULATIONS VOLUME 2 ACADEMIC REGULATIONS FOR STUDENTS FOR THE AUTUMN SEMESTER OF THE 2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR</b>	<b>REMARKS</b>
1.	Instructions issued by the Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body (JOKT) shall apply without being bound by the present Regulations.	Decisions issued by the JOKT shall be applied both in the case of past and future JOKT decisions concerning provisions of the HKR and its Annexes. Decisions made with urgency, if their nature warrants it, shall be included in the regulations later.
2.	The present Regulations and the Remarks section are to be interpreted together, with the provisions of the Regulations being applied in consideration with the Remarks.	The Remarks are intended to elaborate on the "legislative" intentions of the Regulations. The present section serves to provide an interpretation of the Regulations and a guideline for their application, with their content to be applied in conjunction with the provisions of the Regulations.
3.	Students and instructors have a mutual responsibility to cooperate in the fulfilment of the academic and exam obligations.	Emphasizing this existing basic principle in the present Regulations is especially important because certain situations may arise when the Regulations do not provide a detailed guideline. When finding a solution in such situations, cooperation between the parties involved in the education process is especially important.
4.	Unlike how it is stated in HKR 17.§ (2a), the dean can deviate from the planned education arrangement form of certain courses during the semester.	According to the policy defined by the dean, the education arrangement form of the courses are determined in the beginning of the semesters, however, due to the developments of the epidemic, it is necessary to authorize the dean to deviate from the previously determined form in case of certain courses. In the 4 <sup>th</sup> wave of

		the coronavirus epidemic this typically (but not exclusively) means holding the courses online.
5.	The special regulations may deviate from Section 63 (1) of the HKR.	Class attendance and monitoring policies may also be waived if required by the study plan.
6.	<p>Paragraphs (1b) and (1c) of Section 66 of the HKR shall be replaced by the following provisions:</p> <p><i>[[If the student has not been granted an exemption described in Section 63 (5) of the Regulation and the instructor checks attendance, then due to non-attendance]</i></p> <p>„b) in the case of absences of more than a quarter of the total number of classes of the in-person course, the instructor must ensure that the course can be completed with extra work, and in the case of online courses, the instructor is entitled to assign extra work or refuse to give a practical grade;</p> <p>c) the practical grade will be denied for absences of more than one third of the total number of classes, with the exception of in-person courses.”</p>	<p>Paragraph (1) of Section 66 regulates the extent of absence from practical courses (e.g. seminars, laboratory work, project labs, etc.) and the instructor’s right/obligation to decide on the extent of absence.</p> <p>In the framework of the protection against the coronavirus, the ELTE Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body prohibits entry to the University in case of symptoms characteristic of coronavirus [cough; dyspnea, shortness of breath; fever (38 degrees or above); unusual fatigue; sudden onset of taste or smell disturbance].</p> <p>Paragraph (2a) of Section 17 of the HCR defines the concept of an in-person course. According to this paragraph, in-person courses are courses requiring the student’s in-person attendance. If the student is absent from more than one quarter of such classes, the instructor must ensure that the student is able to complete the course.</p> <p>However, in the case of synchronous online courses, the student is expected to attend in real time even if physically absent from the University, and therefore the general provisions on absence apply (and are not relevant for asynchronous courses).</p>

This Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body Briefing will take effect on the day following its publication, 11 November 2021.

Budapest, 10 November 2021.

Eötvös Loránd University  
Epidemiological Operative Coordinating Body