



Memorandum

Office of the Director: Marketing & PR

Tel: +27(0)16 950 9225

Fax: +27(0)16 950 9767

Email: kedie@vut.ac.za

To: Staff and Students
CC: COVID-19 Campus Biosafety Task Team
From: Director: Marketing & Public Relations
Date: 29 June 2021
Subject: **Procedures for Lockdown Level 4**

President Cyril Ramaphosa addressed the nation on Sunday, 27 June 2021. He announced that South Africa's lockdown regulations will be tightened as the country grapples with a 3rd COVID-19 wave.

He moved the country to an adjusted Level 4 with effect from Monday, 28th of June 2021 until Sunday, 11 July 2021, where after the situation will be reviewed to ascertain if the new lockdown regulations had a positive impact in slowing down the spread of the virus. Curfew times changed to 21:00 until 04:00.

The President further stated that the decision to implement new regulations is to prevent health facilities from being overwhelmed and to ensure that there are enough beds and health workers to give the best possible care to those in need of it.

Guided by the new regulations as promulgated in the Government Gazette no 344772 dated 27 June 2021, the VUT COVID-19 Campus Biosafety Task Team has resolved to adjust the lockdown regulations on campus as follows:

- 1 No students will be allowed on campuses, e.g. Vanderbijlpark and the VUT Southern Gauteng Science and Technology Park from Thursday, 1 July 2021 and are encouraged to study remotely. Students are required to always adhere to the COVID-19 regulations. Practical classes will resume as soon as the restrictions are lifted.
- 2 Resident students will be allowed to remain in residences but will not be allowed to access the campus.
- 3 Masters and Doctoral students who are currently conducting research in the laboratories will be permitted to enter the campus.
- 4 The above-mentioned students should be in possession of a letter of authority signed by the Executive Dean of the specific faculty. The name list of students compiled by the head of department and staff lists compiled by the respective line managers should be submitted to the Protection Services for the attention of Mr Siphwe Tshabalala or Mr Simon Sithole for access control and record purposes.
- 5 Only staff members rendering essential services to the University will be allowed on campus on rotational basis, e.g. Protection Services, Library, Finance, Health Services, IT, Human Resources, and Projects and Services. List of names of staff requiring cross border permits as approved by the respective line managers should be submitted to the Protection Services for the attention of Mr Motloheloa Ramotsoanyane at email lawrencer@vut.ac.za.
- 6 All other staff members are encouraged to work remotely until 11 July 2021. Access to the campus over this period, including weekends is prohibited.

- 7 All staff members that require to remove their tools of trade from their offices should do so not later than Wednesday, 30 June 2021 at 12:00. No one will be allowed on campus after the deadline.
- 8 Access to the campus from Thursday, 1st July 2021 will **ONLY** be through the main gate. All other gates will be closed.
- 9 Line managers should send all requests for cleaning services during this period must submit written requests to Mr Leonard Swana, Executive Director: Operations and Logistics **not later than 12:00 on Wednesday, 30 June 2021**, email: leonards@vut.ac.za.
- 10 The academic recess as indicated in the calendar will not be affected by these changes.

You are urged to continue observing Level 4 lockdown regulations while at home to save lives. Wear a mask, wash your hands regularly, sanitize your hands, maintain social distancing of 2 metres and avoid attending to any form of gatherings as far as possible.

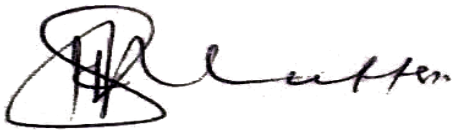
If you should test positive for COVID-19 in the next two weeks:

1. Contact Mr Roshan Madhoo, HR COVID-19 Manager for VUT on roshanm@vut.ac.za and provide him with the following details:
 - (i) Name, Surname, and staff / student number
 - (ii) The last day you had contact with the positive person.
 - (iii) Date of testing of the affected person.
 - (iv) Date of positive result of the affected person.
 - (v) Should you experience any symptoms, have yourself tested immediately and provide the results to Mr Madhoo.
2. Mr Madhoo will use the information provided to compile reports for the DoH as well as the COVID 19 Campus Biosafety Task Team.
3. The affected person should isolate / quarantine for a period of 10 days.
4. After 10 days, the affected staff member should report to Sr Eleanor Moloko to be cleared to return to work when the campus re-open.
5. Should you become symptomatic during the isolation / quarantine period, you are advised to report your situation to HR as the safety of the entire university could be compromised. Reporting timeously will assist the institution with contact tracing to prevent the virus outbreak.
6. Testing positive should not be an embarrassment, but an understanding that this is a condition that should be managed responsibly by all. Whilst in isolation, you are encouraged to continuously communicate with your Line Manager and endeavour to complete tasks assigned to you.

Our thoughts and prayers are with everyone who has been affected by COVID-19 and wish them a speedy recovery. Our sincere condolences to families, friends, and colleagues for the loss of loved ones.

The above institutional lockdown restrictions will be reviewed following the President's address on Sunday, 11 July 2021.

Kind regards,



Ms Kediemetse Mokotsi

#changevut

