

UPPSALA UNIVERSITY

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DECISION  
9 June 2020

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### **Measures in response to the spread of COVID-19 disease**

The recommendation of the Public Health Agency of Sweden on distance teaching and assessment at universities and other higher education institutions will cease to apply from 16 June 2020.

This decision supersedes all previous decisions of the Vice-Chancellor relating to COVID-19. During the autumn, most of the University's courses will be given in the form of on-campus education, with larger or smaller digitalised elements. The term 'distance' should be reserved for the courses and programmes that are formally classified as distance learning and are planned to take place without students being present in Uppsala or Visby.

The regulations, general advice and recommendations that are in effect to reduce the spread of infection in society must be followed in all activities at the University. This entails a great responsibility for all students, staff, visitors and others engaged in activities.

To avoid crowding and to meet the distancing requirements, the University's premises will need to be used for more of the day and of the semester.

### **Decision**

It is hereby decided that the following applies at Uppsala University:

- For education and other activities, physical presence is to be used where necessary, while digital elements are to be used where possible, in order to achieve high quality while limiting the spread of infection.
- Activities are to be planned so as to avoid close physical contact, crowding and gatherings of large groups:
  - The Public Health Agency's recommendation limiting the number of participants in public gatherings (at present, 50 people) will also serve as the guideline for teaching, examinations and other meetings at the University. All activities at the University must be conducted so as

- to avoid gatherings of more than 50 people. If the Public Health Agency's recommendation changes, this part of the University's decision will also be changed.
- Efforts must be made to ensure physical spacing (social distancing) in all teaching, examinations and other meetings.
  - The option of participating digitally (remotely) should be offered if possible.
  - Regarding access to premises and the possibility of physical presence, the following groups and educational elements are to have priority:
    - Courses for new students and the first semester of educational programmes.
    - Students for whom special educational support has been approved.
    - Practical tasks that cannot be performed digitally.
    - Examinations that are difficult to carry out digitally.
    - Final exams and mandatory components in the final year of educational programmes.
  - Employees and students will normally require an access card for entry to the University's premises. Efforts must be made to ensure physical spacing (social distancing) in University premises.
  - Staff and students must, without exception, stay at home if they have the slightest symptoms of a cold or influenza.
  - Members of staff who personally belong to an at-risk group or who live with a person in an at-risk group should be given the opportunity, as far as possible and by agreement with their line manager, to work from home.
  - Others members of staff may – by agreement with their manager – work from home if and when their duties allow this.
  - No business travel abroad will be permitted while the Ministry for Foreign Affairs continues to advise against travel.
  - The impact of COVID-19 on doctoral students' education and any special needs for support/extension should be registered in the annual revision of the individual study plan. This revision must be carried out for all doctoral students by 31 December 2020.

This decision takes effect on 16 June 2020.

## **Background**

This decision has been taken in view of the spread of COVID-19 disease (coronavirus SARS-CoV-2). Uppsala University is following the decisions and recommendations of the Swedish government and the Public Health Agency of Sweden.

The decision in this matter was taken by the undersigned Vice-Chancellor after consultation with the Management Council, following a presentation of the matter by Chief Legal Officer Per Abrahamsson.

Eva Åkesson

Per Abrahamsson