

AAU COVID-19 PLAN 2021/2022

This plan has been approved by the President's Collegium in the Executive format, and takes into consideration regulations and measures from the Czech Government effective from March 14, 2022. The plan is subject to change as official regulations and measures are adjusted.

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- I. General COVID-19 related information**
- II. On-site, virtual and hybrid classes**
- III. Hygienic measures on AAU campus**
- IV. Classroom settings, events on AAU campus and behavior expectations of students, faculty and staff on AAU campus**
- V. Reporting duties and COVID-19 testing**
- VI. Important contacts and resources**

I. General COVID-19 related information

- In the setting of educational institutions with face-to-face instruction, the risk of COVID-19 is lower in small classes, activities and events, where individuals remain spaced at least 1.5 - 2 m apart and do not share objects.
- COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as [handwashing](#), [staying home when sick](#)) and environmental prevention practices (such as [cleaning and disinfection](#)) are important principles for everyone to follow.

Latest updates:
14 March 2022

Students, faculty and staff should apply these prevention practices.

COVID-19 symptoms:

- Anyone can have mild to severe symptoms.
- People with COVID-19 have had a wide range of symptoms reported – ranging from mild symptoms to severe illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:
 - Fever of 37.8 degrees Celsius and higher or chills
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - Fatigue
 - Muscle or body aches
 - Headache
 - New loss of taste or smell
 - Sore throat
 - Congestion or runny nose
 - Nausea or vomiting
 - Diarrhea, abdominal pain or loss of appetite

Useful information on the symptoms of COVID-19 can be found [here](#).

Students, faculty and staff should self-monitor for these symptoms daily and if they think they are ill, stay home until they can consult with a medical professional or be tested. See below for detailed reporting duties and procedures.

II. On-site, virtual and hybrid classes at AAU

- AAU's default format of instruction is on-site learning.
- Reflecting the current governmental and legal requirements, AAU classes are taking place in-person.

Latest updates:
14 March 2022

- Remote instruction is available upon request only for those students who are unable to come to Prague for visa related matters or reasons related to COVID-19. Students can e-mail the Dean of Students Ms. Katerina Vanova at katerina.vanova@aauni.edu to request the authorization of remote instruction. The request should contain a filled Petition Form which can be found [here](#). Requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.
- All courses with at least one remote student will deliver face-to-face (synchronous) instruction to both on-site and remote students; the classes will be recorded and recordings made available to students.
- Details about how instruction is modified in the spring and summer term can be found in the [Academic Guidelines for the Spring and Summer Term 2022](#).
- All students have received login credentials and other information from the AAU IT department in order to access the **NEO e-learning portal** and the **MS Teams** communication platform, relevant for onsite as well as remote learning.

III. Hygienic measures on the AAU Campus

The health and safety of our students, faculty and staff is the primary concern of AAU. In accordance with the measures and requirements of the Czech government AAU puts measures in place that help keep our students, faculty and staff safe. Due to the overall development of the Covid-19 pandemic, the following applies:

- Effective February 19, 2022, governmental rules no longer require regular testing of employees.
- Effective of the same date, AAU does no longer require proof of vaccination, proof of recovery of COVID-19 or negative tests as a condition to enter the AAU campus
- Fully vaccinated faculty and staff and those who have recovered from COVID in the past 180 days, should still have their vaccine certificate or proof of recovery of COVID-19 on record and send respective certificates to **Lucie Kacovská** at lucie.kacovska@aauni.edu

Latest updates:
14 March 2022

- AAU still highly recommends to its students, staff and faculty to get vaccinated against Covid-19.
- AAU recognizes vaccination certificates confirming the administration of the following vaccines: BioNTech and Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Janssen Pharmaceutica NV/Johnson & Johnson. Additionally, AAU will recognize the Sputnik and Sinovac vaccines for the purposes of students attending in-person classes.
- Effective February 19, 2022, students who are not vaccinated or have recovered from COVID in the past 180 days are no longer obliged to upload a negative PCR test result to NEO and AAU does no longer require proof of vaccination, recovery from COVID-19 or negative tests as a condition to enter the AAU campus.
- Effective March 14, **masks are no longer required** at AAU premises.
- Every person entering the AAU campus is expected to use hand sanitizer from one of the hand sanitizer stations placed on campus.
- Everyday disinfection of door handles, water dispensers, keyboards, tables, classroom chairs, and other high-touch surfaces is done by AAU as well as additional deep cleaning throughout the semester.

IV. Classroom setting, Home Office and Events at AAU

- Because of AAU's small classrooms, keeping windows open as much as possible is recommended.
- Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to keep their personal items (e.g., cell phones, other electronics) and personal work spaces clean and to use disinfectant wipes or cleaning

Latest updates:
14 March 2022

solution to wipe down shared desks, equipment, and other shared objects and surfaces before use.

- Distance between desks may be adjusted if necessary. *If assistance is needed to relocate furniture please contact mar.tykhonovych@aauni.edu*
- Home Office (work from home) regulations for AAU staff are subject to the decision of the AAU President during the duration of the COVID-19 pandemic, taking into consideration the instructions or regulations of the Czech Government and AAU's accreditation agencies. Employees should speak with their supervisor to request home office approval and follow internal AAU regulations.

Opening hours/shifts of AAU offices are the responsibility of each department or office. Each supervisor decides on shifts for the department and is responsible for the regular function of the department.

Events on AAU Campus will be organized by the AAU Events Manager in accordance with Czech Government regulations. All members of the AAU community are asked to follow instructions and cooperate with the AAU Events Manager, Operations staff and AAU management in this regard.

V. Reporting Duties and Procedures

- AAU requires students, faculty and staff to report to AAU if they have tested COVID-positive or have been in contact with persons who have tested COVID-positive, who show COVID-19 symptoms.
- AAU recommends that its permanent faculty and staff undergo PCR COVID-19 test if they have symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
- A student, faculty or staff member, who has tested positive, must stay off- campus for 7 days.

Latest updates:
14 March 2022

- AAU recommends that a student, faculty or staff member who has been in close contact with a person who has tested positive, stays off-campus for 5 days.
- Students, who have tested positive or been in close contact with a person who has tested positive can contact the Dean of Students Ms. Katerina Vanova at katerina.vanova@aauni.edu to request the authorization of remote instruction for the period of 7 days (if tested positive) or 5 days (if in contact with a positive person) respectively.

VI. Important Contacts and Resources

- All **students** who have questions about AAU's COVID-19 requirements and measures should email katerina.vanova@aauni.edu.
- All **faculty and staff** who test positive or have questions about AAU's COVID-19 requirements and measures should email lucie.kacovska@aauni.edu.

IMPORTANT RESOURCES ABOUT CZECH GOVERNMENT COVID-19 RELATED MEASURES:

<https://www.mvcr.cz/mvcren/article/coronavirus-information-of-moi.aspx>

<https://koronavirus.mzcr.cz/en/>

<https://www.prg.aero/en/testing-covid-19>

TESTING LOCATIONS:

<https://koronavirus.mzcr.cz/seznam-odberovych-center/>

TRAVEL:

Travelers entering the Czech Republic should regularly check the [Czech Ministry of Interior website for the latest information regarding COVID-related travel](#).

COVID PORTAL

<https://covid.gov.cz/en/>

Latest updates:
14 March 2022

AAU COVID-19

<https://www.aau.edu/covid-19-information-and-resources/>