

## RECTOR'S DECREE

23.08.2021

Rīga

No. 5-1/434/2021

### **On organisation of the study process under conditions of the spread of Covid-19 infection**

In order to ensure the study, research and scientific activity of Rīga Stradiņš University (hereinafter - RSU) under conditions of the spread of Covid-19 infection, reducing the health risks to students, staff and guests and observing the mandatory epidemiological safety measures and restrictions imposed in the country, as well as taking into consideration the principles of action included in Section 1, Paragraph three, and Section 2, Clause two of the Law on the Management of the Spread of Covid-19 Infection, Paragraphs 4, 8, 40<sup>13</sup>, 40<sup>14</sup> and 109 of the Cabinet Regulations No. 360 of 9 June 2020 "Epidemiological safety measures for limiting the spread of Covid-19 infection", Section 36, Paragraph three of the Education Law and Section 4, Paragraph three, Clause 4 of the Law on Higher Education Institutions, and taking into account the mandatory requirements set out in the country for the on-site implementation and acquisition of the study programmes at higher education institutions, including the right of students to participate in on-site studies only upon presenting an interoperable vaccination or recovery certificate, and the obligation of the higher education institution to ensure the control (verification) of the existence of such certificates:

it is DECREED that:

1. Taking into account the positive experience gained during the pandemic period in achieving the learning outcomes by organising online studies, as well as the need to ensure the control of student flow during on-site studies, the study process shall be carried out on site in the academic year 2021/2022 considering that:

1.1. the study process may be organised remotely up to 50% of the amount of the study programme in social science study programmes;

1.2. the study process may be organised remotely up to 20% of the amount of the study programme in medical and health care study programmes.

2. **From 30 August 2021 to 10 October 2021**, the study process shall be carried out remotely, with the exception of:

2.1. the mastering of the practical part of the study programmes necessary for the acquisition of professional skills in compliance with the requirements laid down in Paragraph 8 of the Decree;

2.2. the clinical placement in residency in compliance with the epidemiological safety requirements of the medical institutions;

2.3. the cases provided for in the Dean's decree regarding individual study programmes, if it is necessary to ensure the appropriate study process.

3. The following people may participate in on-site implementation and acquisition of the study programme **until 10 October 2021**:

3.1. people having **an interoperable vaccination certificate** attesting that the person has been vaccinated against Covid-19 infection and fourteen days have elapsed after completion of a full vaccination course with vaccines registered by the European Medicines Agency or by an equivalent regulator or with vaccines approved by the World Health Organisation in accordance with the instructions for vaccine use, or from the twenty-second to ninetieth day after receiving the first dose of the "Vaxzevria" vaccine and immediately after receiving the second dose of "Vaxzevria", or people until the one hundred and eightieth day after the date of sampling with laboratory-confirmed Covid-19 infection detecting SARS-CoV-2 virus RNA, and people who have received one dose of the vaccine registered by the European Medicines Agency or by an equivalent regulator or with the vaccine approved by the World Health Organisation starting from the fifteenth day after the vaccination;

3.2. people having **an interoperable recovery certificate** attesting that a person has recovered from Covid-19 infection and at least eleven days but not more than 180 days have passed since the date of sampling with laboratory-confirmed Covid-19 infection detecting SARS-CoV-2 virus RNA within one episode of the disease;

3.3. people having **an interoperable testing certificate** attesting that a person has undergone a Covid-19 test within the last 48 hours in accordance with the testing algorithm of the Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (hereinafter - the CDPC), and the result is negative. Payment for the test shall be determined in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in the Republic of Latvia.

4. **From 11 October 2021**, only people having an interoperable vaccination or recovery certificate may participate in the on-site implementation and acquisition of the study programme.

5. Having assessed the epidemiological situation and considering the specific nature of the study programme, the Dean, in cooperation with the Head of the study programme, may issue a decree regarding implementation of certain study courses (including placements) or modules of the study programme fully or partially remotely ensuring that the quality of studies is not reduced, taking into consideration the provisions laid down in Paragraph 1 of the Decree and informing the Study Department about it.

6. The following organisational and epidemiological safety measures shall be introduced into on-site study process:

6.1. The Dean or Head of the Department shall appoint the person in charge of checking the person's compliance with the requirements specified in Paragraph 3 or 4 of the Decree.

6.2. The Department of Infrastructure shall provide technical means for the verification of the interoperable certificates referred to in Paragraph 3 or 4 of the Decree and that a security guard checks the person's compliance with Paragraph 3 or 4 of the Decree in RSU buildings where security guard services are used.

7. Upon arrival at RSU premises, a student, lecturer and any RSU employee (hereinafter - a person) shall present a personal identification document (a passport or an identity card) and an interoperable certificate attesting compliance with the provisions of Paragraph 3 or 4 of the Decree to a RSU security guard or to a responsible person appointed by the Dean or the Head of the Department.

8. The Heads of the study programmes shall have the duty to ensure that the epidemiological safety requirements and other instructions of the third parties (medical

institutions, clinical base units, placement locations, etc.) are strictly followed by RSU and RSU students when carrying out study activities, including placements, at third parties.

9. The International Admissions Office (regarding international applicants) and the International Student Department (regarding international students) shall collect information about the time of arrival of applicants and students and their residence address in the Republic of Latvia.

10. The Finance Department shall provide analytical accounting of the costs incurred due to the implementation of the precautionary measures related to Covid-19 and other requirements specified in the Cabinet Regulation No. 360 of 9 June 2020 “Epidemiological safety measures for limiting the spread of Covid-19 infection” (hereinafter - the Cabinet Regulations) that RSU has covered from its own financial resources, indicating increase or reduction of costs (compared to the period from 1 August to 31 December 2019) under the following expenditure items and in accordance with the following categories of economic classification of budgetary expenditure:

10.1. remuneration and compulsory social security contributions;

10.2. RSU maintenance costs, which are not specified in Sub-paragraph 10.1 or 10.3 of the Decree;

10.3. expenditure on goods and services;

10.4. capital expenditure.

11. RSU responsible departments in accordance with their competence, shall immediately update RSU procedures “Procedure for the implementation of precautions for the containment of the spread of Covid-19 infection at Rīga Stradiņš University” and RSU Rector’s decree “On special precautions at RSU Halls of Residence to limit the spread of Covid-19 infection”, and, if necessary, requirements of other RSU internal rules and regulations in accordance with the epidemiological safety measures prescribed by the Cabinet Regulations and submit them to RSU Rector for approval.

12. The further academic process at RSU may be changed and planned according to the conditions created by the epidemiological situation and public safety requirements.

13. RSU Student Services shall provide information to the State Education Quality Service regarding the organisation of RSU study process on site and remotely, as well as on specific anti-epidemic measures, if the CDPC has prescribed such to RSU, a particular student or employee, and RSU knows about that.

14. The failure of a student to fulfil the obligations laid down in this Decree may be regarded as a serious breach of the study contract with appropriate consequences, including the possibility to be excluded from the University and the obligation to cover losses and damage to natural and legal persons.

15. The International Student Department, Deans, the Student Union and the Communication Department shall organise an information campaign regarding the measures specified in this Decree and the consequences of non-compliance.

16. Data regarding RSU students in a specific higher education programme shall be exchanged in accordance with the terms and conditions specified in external laws and regulations.

17. With the issuance of this Decree, the Rector’s Decree No. 5-1/132/2021 of 8 March 2021 “On further organisation of the study process under conditions of the spread of COVID-19 infection” shall become invalid.

18. The Rector's Office shall acquaint all employees and P.Feldmane, the President of the Student Union's Board with this Decree.

Rector

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WITH A SECURE ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE AND CONTAINS A TIME STAMP