

Notice on Response Actions for the Novel Coronavirus (52): Guidelines for Campus Social Distancing and Anti-epidemic Measures

Chair, Task Force on Response Actions for the Novel Coronavirus

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Dear Students and Colleagues,

Further to the announcement on vaccination and testing arrangements issued on 8 June 2021, the University would like to provide further updates on social distancing and anti-epidemic measures for campus events and classroom-based teaching and learning activities.

The guidelines and measures are drawn up in accordance with all prevailing government regulations against the COVID-19 pandemic and communicable diseases, PolyU's vaccination requirements and our institutional objective to gradually resume normal operations.

1. Campus Events

For campus events other than teaching and learning, please note the following guidelines on venue capacity and requirements for venue management and guests/event participants. In general, performers or speakers should remain on stage or in a designated area so as to maintain adequate distance from the audiences during performances or activities. This is to minimize close physical contact in the events.

Venue Capacity

The allowable number of persons, performance types, group size, mask-on requirement and related control measures at **Jockey Club Auditorium (JCA) and Chiang Chen Studio Theater (CCST)** should follow the existing requirements applicable to scheduled premises under Cap. 599F. Currently, it should be no more than 75% of the designated seating capacity and no more than 4 consecutive seats in a row.

These 75% seating capacity limit and 4 consecutive seats restrictions are also applicable to **lecture theatres, Senate Room and rooms having immovable seating** with similar stage-floor seating zones as in JCA and CCST.

For **other indoor venues**, the normal participant number should not exceed 50% of the designated seating capacity. It should be no more than 4 participants in a group or 4 consecutive seats in a row.

Venue Management

- No eating or drinking is allowed.
- A well-ventilated condition should be maintained with provision of hand sanitizers.
- Participants should wear masks at all times. They should observe personal and environmental hygiene.
- Regular environmental cleaning and disinfection of the facilities are carried out. For prolonged use (more than 4 hours) of venue, an event break for disinfection should be arranged.
- According to the government regulations on places of public entertainment, JCA requires participants to scan the 'LeaveHomeSafe' venue QR code or register participants' names, contact numbers and the date and time of their visits before they are allowed to enter the premises, with written or electronic records to be kept for 31 days.

General Requirements

- Event organisers / Facilities Management Office (FMO) can impose stricter restrictions such as limiting the number of participants based on the nature and type of events.
- Event organisers should approach FMO for campus access arrangement at least 3 working days prior to the event. To enable smooth campus access and participant identification, event organisers may be asked to arrange group escort services for participants' entering and leaving the campus.
- Information to be provided by visitors/guests for campus access may include the event name, their health declaration, name, email for accessing the QR code and/or phone number.

- Visitors/guests who develop a fever or respiratory symptoms should not come to the campus. They should seek medical attention as soon as possible.
- For those who are subject to the compulsory testing requirement under the Prevention and Control of Disease (Compulsory Testing for Certain Persons) Regulation (Cap 599J), they should not come to the campus until they have tested negative for COVID-19.
- Visitors/guests are required to comply with the University related anti-epidemic measures, such as mask wearing, temperature screening and group size limit.

2. Classroom-based Teaching and Learning

In accordance with the Announcement on Vaccination and Testing Arrangements issued on 8 June 2021, students and colleagues who return to the campus classroom starting from academic year 2021/22 for teaching and learning should have either been vaccinated or undergone weekly COVID-19 screening testing. Please refer to the notice “Arrangements for Learning, Teaching and Assessment for Semester One of 2021/22” dated 1 June 2021.

More information about the arrangement for classroom-based teaching and learning will be advised before the new academic year.

The University will review the implementation of the above measures in view of the latest development of the local pandemic situation and overall vaccination status of the university community. For further enquiries, please contact Dr Dennis LAI, Secretary to Task Force on Response Actions for the Novel Coronavirus, at 3400-8393 or dennis.lai@polyu.edu.hk.

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