Heidelberg, 30 September 2020

Dear colleagues,

In accordance with the Corona Ordinance on Degree-related Operations and the Arts from the Ministry of Science, Research and the Arts, published on 24 September 2020, and the Corona Ordinance of the State of Baden-Württemberg amended as of 30 September 2020, the following regulations now apply for Heidelberg University – in addition to the existing general and university-specific coronavirus-related rules:

Social distancing and wearing a mask is obligatory in corridors

In all buildings of Heidelberg University – in addition to the general requirement of keeping a distance of at least 1.5m in all corridors and areas of circulation – there is now a new obligation to wear a mask protecting your mouth and nose (a “non-medical”, everyday mask). This includes, for example, doorways and entrance areas, passageways, landings, stairs, auditoriums, lifts and toilets. It also includes aisles in learning areas, in study and event rooms or inside lecture halls and examination rooms, moving between rows of seats or while entering or leaving seminar rooms.

On the university website you will find various posters for downloading to help you communicate the obligation to wear a mask in corridors and areas of circulation:
Notices about coronavirus measures

Exceptions to the obligation to keep your distance

The exception to the rule continues to apply to pure research activities in laboratory areas. Here the gap of 1.5m can be reduced on condition that the researchers work in fixed small groups of up to four persons, wear a mask protecting their mouth and nose, and on the premises, the hygiene requirements of the Corona Ordinance, in particular adequate ventilation, are respected. If the wearing of a mouth-nose protection is inadmissible on grounds of occupational safety, no exceptions can be made to the obligatory distancing of 1.5m.
Furthermore, in its Corona Ordinance on Degree-related Operations and the Arts the Ministry allows universities to deviate from compulsory social distancing in certain special situations, even in the area of student affairs and teaching, for example when forming cohorts of students in fixed, not overlapping course structures. These special provisions, however, do not generally apply at Heidelberg University.

**Broadening of the data collection**

The Corona Ordinance on Degree-related Activities and the Arts obliges the university to expand the collection of contact details. Firstly, the Corona Ordinance underlines the necessity of collecting data for every single event and every time it takes place. Secondly, as of now data collection is required in all areas of the libraries (a possible exception: picking up ordered media and returning them), the University Archive, in other academic departments and operational facilities with degree-related activities, in the student secretariats and portals, where students visit advisory and administrative services, as well as in learning areas and study rooms requiring a reservation.

The forms, posters and data privacy information for display that we have already made available to facilitate data collection have been updated. The data collection of the university as of now covers only the collection of contact details. A written confirmation of the entry and attendance rules as was contained in the previous forms is no longer necessary.

To sum up, the following documents on data collection are available in their revised versions:

- Poster “Conditions of admission and participation for all members and visitors of Heidelberg University”
- Form for collecting contact details of event participants
- Form for collecting contact details of visitors and users
- Information on data protection
- Guide to collecting contact details and access ban

Alternative electronic instruments for data collection, such as scanning the Uni ID card or a QR code, are currently in preparation and will be made available as soon as possible. Further information on this will follow.

For your questions and concerns around the topic of coronavirus you can – besides the usual communication channels – always reach our coronavirus service portal at:

Tel: 06221 54-19191  
Email: service.corona@uni-heidelberg.de

With best wishes and stay healthy

Dr. Holger Schroeter