

## COVID-19 Update: Prolongation of lock down “light” and gradual opening starting with 7 December

Update 03.12.2020

Due to the “hard” lock down in the last weeks the Covid-19 numbers slowly but continuously decreased. The Austrian Government decided on the following measures in order to enable a safe and sustainable step by step opening:

- **Curfews**

The curfew applies - as before the lockdown - again from 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. You may only leave your own private living area at this time for certain reasons.

- **Contact restrictions**

During the day, people who live together in one household may meet with people from another household. This may be a maximum of six people and six children.

- **Shops and gastronomy**

The shops may reopen. The entire gastronomy and hotels remain closed for customer operations. Food and drinks may be collected between 6.00 and 19.00 hours. Delivery services remain permitted around the clock.

- **Quarantine after entry**

As of December 19, a quarantine obligation applies for those entering Austria. Persons entering the country from a risk area must remain in quarantine for ten days. Free testing is possible after five days using a PCR test. Exceptions will be made for business travellers and commuters, for example. The regulation will apply until January 10th, with the Orthodox Christmas on January 7th being the main target.

- **Distance rules, mask obligation**

The one-meter distance rule is still valid in public spaces to persons not belonging to the household. In closed public spaces, the obligation to wear a mouth and nose protector (MNS) continues to apply.

- **Schools and kindergartens**

Compulsory schools and kindergartens are resuming regular operations, but from the age of ten years on, masks are also compulsory in lessons. Upper schools and universities will continue to offer distance learning. The only exception: high school graduation classes may return to the schools.

- **At work**

Where possible, home office is recommended. If neither the one-meter distance nor other protective measures are possible, wearing a mouth and nose protector is mandatory.

Students will be informed via E-Mail how the regulations from the Austrian Government affect their studies at TU Graz. TU Graz will send out more information in due time. Check your emails regularly and have a look at the website: <https://www.tugraz.at/icoe/coronavirus/home/>

*All information provided by the International Office – Welcome Center refers to the information provided during press conferences from the Austrian Government and given at websites from the Austrian Government. No warranty can be given in respect of the accuracy, reliability or completeness of this information.*