

FU-BEST Program SARS-CoV-2 Preparedness

FU-BEST adheres to the SARS-CoV-2 (commonly referred to as “coronavirus”) preparedness and response guidelines published by Freie Universität Berlin, based on §33 and §36 of the German Infectious Diseases Protection Act (IfSG) and specific recommendations by the Robert-Koch-Institut (federal agency for disease control and prevention) and the BZgA (federal center for health education).

Preventative measures on campus

Students, faculty and staff are required to...

- ☑ **...avoid close contact to others and keep physical distance of at least 1.5 meters.**
This will be implemented by staff and faculty in FU-BEST offices and classrooms, and generally in all campus facilities.
- ☑ **...wear a cloth face cover when around others.**
It is possible to spread COVID-19 without feeling sick. The cloth face cover is meant to protect others in case the person wearing it is infected. Wearing a face cover does not negate the physical distancing guideline.
- ☑ **...follow general personal hygiene guidelines.**
This includes washing one’s hands often with water and soap for at least 20 seconds especially after using the bathroom, blowing one’s nose, coughing, sneezing etc. Using hand sanitizers is generally useful if washing one’s hands with water and soap is not possible at the moment. Such dispensers are easily accessible in all university facilities and bathrooms on campus.
- ☑ **...employ cough and sneeze etiquette by using the inside of their elbow or covering their face with a tissue.**

Students, faculty and staff with signs of a fever and/or presence of other respiratory tract symptoms (dry cough, shortness of breath, sore throat etc.) are not allowed on campus. Those affected will have to contact local practitioners or hospitals for further guidance (contacts are provided by FU-BEST staff).

Frequently touched surfaces in FU-BEST classrooms (door knobs, tables etc.) are cleaned and disinfected before each session. Bathrooms are cleaned daily.

FU-BEST classrooms will be ventilated multiple times a day, at least once per hour, to minimize airborne transmission (i.e. via aerosols).

Fact sheets and posters in crucial locations (entrances, hallways, bathrooms etc.) remind students to adhere to the guidelines listed above.



Keep at least 1.5 m distance to others!



Wash your hands regularly and thoroughly with **soap and water** for **20 seconds**, especially after going to the toilet and before consuming any food.



Cough and sneeze into the **inside of your elbow** or **handkerchief**, not into your hand.

Image Credit: Deutsche Gesetzliche Unfallversicherung e.V. (DGUV), Mai 2020

Preventative measures off campus

Accommodation

Our housing partners (Student Village, The Student Hotel, host families) are required by law to adhere to the basic rules and procedures outlined in the German Infectious Diseases Protection Act (IfSG). We have vetted our partners regarding their compliance with basic physical distancing rules and hygiene guidelines.

Off-campus events

FU-BEST students and staff will have to follow the rules and guidelines posted by the local establishment in Berlin or locations relevant to the week-long excursion (museums, memorials, hotels/hostels, transportation via bus/train etc.). FU-BEST staff will inform students in advance should certain guidelines exceed the usual measures and require additional preparations.