

Christmas Holidays 2020/2021 – Information

Period of the Christmas Holidays:

Wednesday, 2020-12-23 –
Sunday, 2021-01-03

Dear colleagues,

Freie Universität Berlin will be closed for the annual Christmas Holidays from 23rd of December 2020 to 3rd of January 2021 as planned. As a further contribution to contain the SARS-CoV-2 pandemic, the university buildings will be closed from **21st of 2020 beyond the Christmas holidays until 10th of January** with the exception of some libraries, the ZE BGBM and the experimentally working groups. Employees are asked to work from home or take a vacation during these additional days.

Please regard the following suggestions:

1. During the Christmas Lockdown and Christmas Holidays the heating systems will be centrally turned down beside a few exceptions. Additionally, the thermostatic valves will be turned to level 1 by the cleaning staff and the facility managers in the evening of 18th of December or in the morning of 21st of December 2020. In order to reduce their effort, we would like to ask you to turn **the thermostatic valves of the heating in your offices to level 1** on your last work-day.
2. In order to avoid a freezing start of work in the New Year, the buildings are **re-heated in time before the end of the Christmas holidays and Christmas Lockdown** and the heating in the offices will be set to level 2 or 3 again from the cleaning staff and facility managers.
3. For as much electricity saving as possible, we would like to ask you to **switch off electrical devices** in your workplace. Coffee machines, hot-water boilers etc. can be switched off as well as computers, monitors, printers (except Ricoh) and copiers. Please use the switchable power boards if existing or pull the plugs out of the plug connector to avoid stand-by consumptions.
4. During this time it is worth defrosting the refrigerators used for groceries. But you should remember to keep the switched-off refrigerators a bit open in order to avoid unpleasant smells.

5. For **laboratories** you should regard the following:
Before the start of the Christmas Holidays digestors and working surfaces have to be completely emptied and **all chemicals** have to be put safely inside chemical cabinets or hazardous material storages. Please do not leave anything in the digestors. The ventilation of the digestors will be switched off during the Christmas holidays.
Please also remember to switch off drying ovens, vacuum pumps, rotary evaporators, analyzers, heaters, hotplates etc. in the laboratories if possible until your last workday.
6. Please arrange yourselves in working groups. The last one turns off the light and the first one in the tea kitchens or laboratories after the Christmas Holidays and Lockdown lets the water run or uses it to water the flowers.

Further information as well as a **checklist** for preparation of the offices, tea kitchens and laboratories can be found on the following website:

www.fu-berlin.de/sustainability

Information on the areas excluded from the Christmas Holidays and Lockdown:

The control room will be occupied during the whole Christmas Holidays and Lockdown. You can reach the service under the telephone number **55555**. Additionally, the facility managers and the operating technology staff will control the buildings from time to time.

Important note for the 6th of January 2021: In case that parts of the building or some rooms are strongly cooled off on the 6th of January, although thermostatic valves are turned to level 2 or 3, please **immediately inform the central control station (55555)**, so that responsible operating technology staff can react as fast as possible. We would appreciate an additional informing message to sustainability@fu-berlin.de, so that the problem can be analyzed more precisely.

We wish you a relaxing holiday and a good start to the New Year!

Your Sustainability and Energy Management Unit Team

If you have any questions or suggestions, you can contact us directly under the telephone number 57551 or via sustainability@fu-berlin.de.