Commencing Employment at Freie Universität Berlin – Important Information on Traveling to Germany!

Due to the coronavirus pandemic and its far-reaching impact, we would like to draw your attention to the current travel regulations, border controls, and quarantine rules now in effect. At the moment, non-German citizens can enter Germany if they have a good reason for doing so. However, you will need to provide documentation to prove your reason for entry. That is why we ask you to carry with you your official employment offer from Freie Universität. The German federal government provides essential information regarding regulations related to the coronavirus on the following websites:

(German site includes links to information in English)

https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/de/ReiseUndSicherheit/covid-19/2296762 (extensive information in German; some information in English is also available at https://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/en/coronavirus/2317268)

In addition to the various entry restrictions, and independent thereof, Germany requires travelers entering the country to go into quarantine if they are arriving or returning to Germany from a high-risk area. The German Infection Protection Act provides the legal basis for such measures. The quarantine rule applies even to travelers with important reasons for travel. It does not apply to transit passengers passing through Germany en route to another destination. If you can provide recent negative test results that show you are free from a COVID-19 infection, you might be able to avoid the required quarantine period.

The current regulations for the state of Berlin can be found online at https://www.berlin.de/corona/massnahmen/einreisen/ (detailed information in German; other information in English available at https://www.berlin.de/corona/en/measures/)

Right now, the following rules apply:

Quarantine and reporting requirements apply to anyone who has been in a high-risk area abroad within the last 14 days before their entry. High-risk areas include countries or regions outside of Germany that have been identified as areas where there is an increased risk of infection with the coronavirus SARS-CoV-2 at the time of entry.
The current list of high-risk locations can be found here: 
https://www.rki.de/DE/Content/InfAZ/N/Neuartiges_Coronavirus/Risikogebiete_neu.html 
(in German)

Anyone entering Berlin by air, land, or sea after a stay in a high-risk area must go directly to their own apartment or home or other suitable accommodation without delay and stay there for a period of 14 days after entry without interruption.

During quarantine you must strictly avoid contact with anyone who is not a member of your immediate household. In addition, travelers arriving or returning to Germany are required to report to their local health department right away and inform them of their arrival. Each city district has its own health department office responsible for its residents. You can check the list of the health departments offices here: https://www.berlin.de/corona/faq/weitere-­infos-­angebote/ (in German)

If you can provide a doctor’s note and current laboratory results in German or English, confirming that there are no indications that you have COVID-19, the quarantine requirement can possibly be lifted. The decision is up to the health department.

We are happy to provide you with whatever support we can regarding your arrival in Germany. Please contact the personnel staff person in charge of processing your paperwork or send an email to our Welcome Service at start@personal.fu-­berlin.de

Sincerely,
The Personnel Office Team