Temporary Rules Allowing the University to Operate under the Conditions of the Coronavirus Pandemic (Date 8 June 2021)

I. Introduction

Current legislation by the federal government and the Federal State of Baden-Württemberg does not permit the university’s existing phased plan for dealing with coronavirus to be implemented and/or revised properly. For instance, on June 8, 2021 the weighted average for the 7-day incidence in the City of Freiburg and the districts of Breisgau-Hochschwarzwald, Emmendingen and Lörrach were well below the threshold level of 35 on 14 successive days. Consequently, moving to Phase 2 of the plan would be possible. However, given the federal government’s legally-binding regulation, SARS-CoV2-Arbeitsschutzverordnung [Occupational Health and Safety Regulation], and the state government’s Corona Ordinance (CoronaVO) and Corona Ordinance for Studies (CoronaVO Studienbetrieb) key elements of Phase 2 cannot be implemented.

Therefore the university’s phased plan ceases to be effective on June 11, 2021, and the following rules to allow the university to operate under the conditions of the coronavirus pandemic will apply.

II. Updated rules allowing the university to operate under the conditions of the coronavirus pandemic

Based on the current low 7-day incidence, from June 11, 2021 the following rules apply. These rules are subject to the incidence values not increasing significantly.

1. General safety measures

The familiar basic protective measures of maintaining distance, observing hygiene, wearing a mask in the situations stated in the university’s hygiene regulations, regular ventilation and a ban on access/participation in the case of typical symptoms of coronavirus, plus the measures in the General SARS-CoV-2 Hygiene Regulations of the University of Freiburg (SARS-CoV-2-Hygieneordnung Universität) dated March 31, 2021, Version 4.2 must continue to be followed. In addition, the university’s hygiene regulations will directly be adapted to include the rules given below in 2. to 6.
2. **Teaching**

Face-to-face studies continue to be suspended in accordance with Section 15(3)(1)(1) CoronaVO. The following can take place face-to-face:

(1) Classes that are absolutely necessary and cannot be replaced with the use of electronic information and communication technologies or other distance learning formats, in particular
   - practical classes, in particular those that require special laboratory or work spaces, including sports facilities, in particular laboratory practicals, practical elements involving patient contact in compliance with the requirements of the clinics and teaching hospitals, dissection courses and events that involve mainly practical teaching elements,
   - also classes for students in their first semester, for students who commenced studying their first subject semester in summer semester 2020 or winter semester 2020/2021, and for students who are shortly to finish their degree or are facing crucial examinations.

(2) Written and oral examinations, in particular final examinations.

(3) Admission and approval procedures.

(4) All classroom lessons and written examinations must be approved by the Rectorate. An approval can only be granted if the distancing rules can be met.

(5) Individual post-exam reviews may take place on site by appointment. Groups must have approval for a classroom lesson from the Rectorate. Contact details must be collected.

(6) Consulting hours may only take place face-to-face by prior appointment and providing contact details are gathered.

3. **Libraries, teaching and study areas**

(1) Controlled access with restriction on opening hours and a maximum number of people allowed inside; restriction on user groups and on site services; literature provided by loans and limited use on site, increase in electronic offering, increased essay and book delivery services.

(2) With the consent of the Rectorate, seminar rooms and lecture rooms may temporarily be used as library space, in particular in the period when no lectures are being given, and can be adapted and assigned for use as additional reading and teaching space. In these rooms the relevant CoronaVO rules for libraries would apply. There is no requirement to present a negative test result for use of this additional library space.

4. **Carrying out research and administration work**
It is possible to carry out research and administration work on site, however management must enable working from home if staff wish to do so and their job does not require their presence in the workplace.

- In work spaces that are not exclusively used by one member of staff, an area of ten square meters for each person in the room must still be ensured (requirement in the national SARS-CoV-2-Arbeitsschutzordnung).

- Greater occupancy levels may on request of the relevant staff be permitted if it can be proven that all those using the workspace have full immunization (i.e. at least 14 days must have passed since the last single vaccination required) or have recovered from SARS-CoV-2 and their infection was at least 28 days ago and not more than six months. Those with responsibility in the relevant establishment must ensure that they have been shown the correct documentation before allowing a greater occupancy level; this must be documented. Greater occupancy levels cannot be permitted before suitable documentation has been presented. Having a negative SARS-CoV-2 test result is not sufficient.

- Staff may remove their masks while working once they reach their desk/workstation in university buildings, provided the minimum distance of 1.5 meters to others can safely be ensured; this does not apply if members of the public are also present.

Face-to-face committee meetings are permitted; the ‘AHA-L rules’ – that is, Hands – Face – Space & Ventilation – must be observed. There is no obligation to wear a mask at your seat if the concentration of CO2 indoors does not exceed 800 ppm.

Other business meetings (inc. retreats) can take place face-to-face. There is no obligation to wear a mask at your seat if the concentration of CO2 indoors does not exceed 800 ppm.

Catered events are possible if on business; events should be notified to the Rectorate accompanied by a hygiene concept no less than two days beforehand.

Works outings, birthday parties, etc., are not permitted.

5. Business trips

Business trips within Germany are possible provided the 7-day incidence at the destination is below 100.

Business trips abroad are possible if the state/region is not categorized as a risk area, high incidence or virus variant area by the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) at the start of the trip.

Business trips to risk or high incidence areas abroad are only possible for staff who have full immunization at the start of the trip (i.e. at least 14 days must have passed since the last single vaccination required), as well as for staff who have recovered from SARS-CoV-2, provided the infection was at least 28 days ago.
before the start of the trip and no more than six months before the end of the trip. These business trips must be approved by the rector.

(4) Business trips to states/regions that are categorized by the RKI as a virus variant area at the start of the trip are not possible.

(5) Exceptions to the above rules will only be considered if the business trip is professionally essential and cannot be postponed. They must be approved by the rector. A travel authorization request must be accompanied by a suitable explanation of the need for the trip by the applicant. In particular the urgency and importance of the business trip and the business issues that make the trip necessary should be given.

6. **Miscellaneous**

(1) Approval for rehearsals for orchestras, choirs and theater groups may be obtained from the Rectorate on submission of a hygiene concept.

(2) Admission of outsiders is subject to the hygiene regulations.