



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY
OF KOŠICE

INFORMATION TO THE PUBLIC

Answers of the TUKE Management to frequently asked questions of students during the COVID-19 pandemic in Slovakia

STUDY-RELATED QUESTIONS:

1. How will credit tests and/or exams be carried out in case of extension of the distance form of study?

The TUKE Management and the TUKE Task Force have prepared a „Proposal for modification of the educational process at TUKE and the Schedule of the academic year 2019/2020“. This proposal is based on the analysis of the educational process carried out at individual faculties, and on the available analysis and prediction of the development of the COVID-19 coronavirus epidemic. The proposal addresses the alternatives of the end of the academic year for both students, who are and who are not in the last year of study, as well as the specifics of individual faculties and study programs. It also specifies the change of the schedule of the academic year 2019/2020. This proposal will be submitted to the faculties at the Rector’s Advisory Board meeting on 26 March 2020. For this reason, details will be published only after the proposal has been submitted.

The TUKE Management is aware of the complexity of the situation and, therefore, we ask all students for patience and understanding. Our objective is to enable students in their last year of study to complete their studies, to enable students of the first level of education to go on to further studies at the second level, and the students of other years of study to continue their studies. All of that without significant impairment of the quality of provided education.

The proposal will be published after its approval by the Rector’s Advisory Board on 26 March 2020.

2. Due to the current situation, self-study has been ordered, but certain content of the curriculum is relatively difficult for self-study and understanding without the presentation of the lecturer or assistant. Will it be taken into account at the credit tests? Will the assessment criteria be possibly lowered?

We understand that this is an extraordinary situation which requires specific solutions. The effort of TUKE is to be forthcoming to students as much as possible in this situation which is difficult for all of us.

3. Will the final thesis submission deadline be postponed? Will there be any change, or will it remain as it is now? (no consultations, libraries are closed, some students don’t have access to the necessary facilities or equipment, etc.).

Deadlines will be determined for individual levels of study, faculties, and study programs. The operation of the University Library, the Institute of Computer Science and the Student Dormitories will be adapted accordingly.

4. What to do about the final theses where it is necessary to work in the company/hospital or in the TUKE laboratory?

The ways of solving the final theses will be based on the procedures stated in the “Proposal for modification of the educational process at TUKE and the Schedule of the academic year 2019/2020”, and the individual faculties will take specific measures. Please, consult your thesis supervisors about the details.



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF KOŠICE

5. Is there any information on the date and procedure of the state examination and thesis defense?

It will be addressed in the "Proposal for modification of the educational process at TUKE and the Schedule of the academic year 2019/2020" (see the answer to question 1).

6. Is it possible that we will have to repeat the year if the spread of the coronavirus does not stop?

The aim of the TUKE Management is to create conditions for students to successfully complete their academic year or study at TUKE. We ask you to understand that the conditions for completion may vary for different levels of study, for individual study programs, faculties, or students who are or are not in the final year of study.

7. How will the reservation of printing documents in the University Library work, since it can be done only in person and the Library as well as the University is closed?

We are currently working on the operating mode of the University Library, as well as determining the procedure for registering of final theses.

8. How would it be addressed by school, if I wanted to go on Erasmus mobility during in the winter semester? (For example, if part of the curriculum was moved to the winter semester, and I would like to go to Erasmus then).

Assuming that the epidemiological situation will be resolved by September 2020, it would be possible to take part in the Erasmus+ in the winter semester. In the case of extension of deadlines, it would not be possible to take part in the Erasmus+.

9. I think that the situation, which has occurred, will teach us all to better our hygiene habits. Therefore, I would like to ask whether the University is considering providing students and teachers with better hygienic conditions, for example, in the form of contactless disinfectant gel dispensers located, at least, at the main entrances of individual TUKE buildings.

Several portable hand disinfection stations have already been ordered. We assume that they will continue to be used at TUKE even after the end of the emergency situation we are currently in.

DORMITORY-RELATED QUESTIONS:

10. Will the payments for accommodation at dormitories be refunded?

An aliquot part of the monthly accommodation fee for March will be refunded to students living in the student dormitories. This decision applies also to other months during which students cannot stay at the student dormitories, and it also applies to other fees (Internet). The Regulation does not apply to those students who use the accommodation at the dormitories at the moment (students with granted exceptions, foreign students).

11. Can foreign students "undergo" the mandatory two-week quarantine at the dormitory?

Foreign students who are still individually returning from abroad are not allowed to undergo quarantine at the TUKE Student Dormitories. In the further procedure, we will follow the decisions of the Central Crisis Staff, the Government of the Slovak Republic, and the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic.



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF KOŠICE

12. Should the dormitory quarters be provided for the purpose of quarantine or treatment of patients with COVID-19, will we have sufficient time to get our things from the dormitory rooms?

We are not considering providing TUKE Student Dormitories for the purpose of quarantine or treating COVID-19 patients yet. In the event that such a request is made by the State, we will provide the Teaching and Training Facility Herľany for this purpose in the first place. If we will have to provide part of the accommodation facilities of the dormitories, students will be given sufficient time to move out.

13. Is it possible to get my things from the dormitory during working days, if I'm not currently staying there?

TUKE has set the conditions under which Student Dormitories can be accessed for the purpose of taking personal belongings. The conditions are as follows:

- to report the particular dormitory and the exact time when the student will arrive (don't be late),
- if possible, to get to the dormitory by car, not by public transport,
- it is necessary to use a protective mask when visiting the dormitory,
- we recommend the use of disposable gloves,
- the stay at the room for picking up things is allowed for a maximum of 10 ... 15 minutes,
- in the case of a larger number of students, students shall be divided on the basis of a schedule and allowed to enter the dormitory only individually,
- before the entering of the dormitory is allowed, it is necessary to wait outside in front of the building and not to gather in the corridors or in the hall,
- it is banned to use the elevator, use only the staircase to prevent contamination,
- repeated entering, for example, after three days or a week, will not be allowed, it is necessary to take all things needed on your first visit.

14. If the measures were to last longer than two weeks, would it still be possible to request an exception to stay at the dormitory? (occupational reasons)

By Rector's Directive PR/TUKE/05/20 on reducing the risk of infection by the coronavirus Covid-19, Part 3, it was possible to request an exception. A total of 35 exceptions were granted. Please understand the seriousness of the situation. We cannot allow the spread of the infection in such an exposed area as the Student Dormitories. We are not pleased with this unpopular measure, but we do not allow any more exceptions at this time.

15. In the case that we had to move out completely, would we have more time than 10-15 minutes? Because 15 minutes would not be enough, considering that many students practically live/moved there.

At present, we do not expect that it will be necessary to move out of the dormitories. If this were to happen, individual conditions for moving out of the dormitory would be defined.

16. Does TUKE plan to offer dormitories for the needs of the city/hospital?

We are not planning to do so yet. If we are approached by the Central Crisis Staff or the city of Košice, we will address it.

17. Does the reconstruction of student dormitories continue during the quarantine?



TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF KOŠICE

The reconstruction of the Student Dormitories was interrupted by suppliers.

18. As the foreign students are staying at the dormitories + exceptions, will the common areas (kitchenettes, bathrooms and toilets) be disinfected accordingly?

Disinfection of common areas at Student Dormitories (kitchenettes, toilets and bathrooms) is already in progress.

19. If some foreign students return from a country where the virus infection is still present, how would you isolate them?

We will follow the decisions of Central Crisis Staff, the Government of the Slovak Republic and the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the SR. Currently, we require the mandatory quarantine to be undergone outside the TUKE accommodation facilities. We will not allow unrestricted movement of students in the Student Dormitories in any case.

20. What about the waste we have in our rooms? (trash bin + water bottles) Is anyone going to clean it, while we are not there to prevent the proliferation of rodents or other pests? Is it also possible to water the flowers?

The Student Dormitories Directorate has already informed the students that it is conducting extra room checks during which the trash bins are emptied, food waste is discarded, and flowers are watered.

21. How do you address the situation with foreign students? Are they isolated?

It was recommended to foreign students to stay in Slovakia. If they have left, they are not allowed to return to the Student Dormitories until they undergo the mandatory quarantine (outside the dormitory facilities).