

FAQ – Frequently Asked Questions

1. Arrival/ Accommodation/Quarantine regulations

✓ **Arrival How will the pandemic impact my travel to and arrival in Berlin?**

Please check appropriate sources regarding international travel and quarantine regulations at your country of arrival regularly. The German Federal Ministry of the Interior has compiled an extensive and up-to-date FAQ that covers questions concerning travel restrictions, border control, quarantine and many more. See: <https://www.bmi.bund.de/SharedDocs/faqs/EN/topics/civil-protection/coronavirus/coronavirus-faqs.html#doc13797140bodyText3> At the time of actual arrival, whether by means of an overseas flight or via a land-route from another country, a mandatory Corona-test may be required at the European and/or German border before one is allowed to enter. If public authorities in Berlin require you to be tested for the virus upon arrival, this will either already take place at the airport or train station or you will be given instructions for a test to be conducted as quickly as possible elsewhere. Mandatory, short-term quarantine policy may also be evolving and applicable. Should such a mandatory, short-term quarantine be required of you, the program will render assistance where possible. On arrival in Germany during times of the Coronavirus, you may also be asked to present proof that you are a participant in the FUBiS program. You will receive a confirmation document by FUBiS with your registration confirmation and should have it handy when entering the country.

✓ **How will the pandemic impact my accommodation in Berlin?**

Students residing at the Student Village/ StudierendenWERK or The Student Hotel will be subject to the pandemic- and hygiene-related policies and regulations in force at these locations, as communicated before and/or upon arrival. See the following websites: <https://www.studentendorf.berlin/news/measures-against-corona-virus-covid-19-2/> (Student Village), https://www.stw.berlin/unternehmen/themen/corona-faq.html#jump_wohnenfragen (StudierendenWERK) and <https://www.thestudenthotel.com/de/coronavirus/> (The Student Hotel). Homestays feature policies and regulations developed jointly by the homestay hosts and the program in accordance with official hygiene and public health requirements; these will also be communicated before and/or upon arrival (see: http://www.fubis.org/3_unterbr/gastfamilie/COVID-19-health-and-safety-measures-for-homestay.pdf).

✓ **What is the program's quarantine policy?**

If a participant needs to be placed in quarantine upon arrival or after the term gets underway, appropriate arrangements will be made, in accordance with the specific location where the student is living (homestay, Student Village, StudierendenWERK or The Student Hotel). Students housed independently would be required to make their own arrangements in this case, with assistance and advice provided by the program where possible.

2. Daily life in Berlin

✓ **What do I need to know, and where can I find up-to-date information?**

Pandemic-related policies and regulations in Berlin currently in effect include: social distancing rules, wearing adequate masks in public places (shops, public

transportation, museums, etc.), personal hygiene, registration of personal data at restaurants, places of worship, etc. in order to facilitate contact-tracing, and so forth. Here are useful websites for up-to-date information: <https://www.berlin.de/en/>. Full information regarding official regulations can be found here:

<https://www.berlin.de/corona/en/measures/directive/> and

<https://www.berlin.de/corona/en/measures/>. Please note that the pandemic causes restrictions with respect to events and activities involving larger groups of people, such as sports games, concerts, club life, etc. Access to various cultural activities and events is curtailed, restricted, regulated via online tickets only, etc.

- ✓ *The program expects all staff and participants to act responsibly and in accordance with clearly announced regulations and policies with respect to the pandemic, both on- and off-campus.*

3. Conditions on campus

- ✓ **What pandemic-related arrangements have been made on campus?**

Based on Berlin authorities' and university regulations, we have put in place policies and arrangements to ensure proper hygiene safeguards regarding instruction and other activities in our campus facilities. One of our key informational documents can be found here: http://www.fubis.org/6_safety/COVID-19-Info-FUBiS-ENG.pdf.

- ✓ **Will the campus cafeteria be open and available?**

It will be clearer closer to the start of the term whether the campus food service (Mensa) – not included in any of the FUBiS fees – is regularly open or not. If not, participants will be given advice on how to make alternative arrangements for their lunch meal.

4. Program adjustments, if needed

- ✓ **How will the program be adjusted for me if pandemic-related developments (such as quarantine) prevent me from attending class?**

Should this scenario materialize, the program will ensure that the affected participant can continue his/her coursework and studies in order to complete the term, including the use of online resources. The program is under no obligation, however, to provide either a laptop or PC or to arrange internet access (the latter is particularly important for students opting to set up their own accommodation).

- ✓ **How will the program be adjusted in case of a renewed lockdown?**

If pandemic-related developments, such as a renewed lockdown, impact the program in its entirety, arrangements will be made for all students to complete the term in an alternative way. The program will make every effort to enable participants to complete the term successfully on-site in Berlin, most likely via online instruction. The program is under no obligation, however, to provide either a laptop or PC or to arrange internet access (the latter is particularly important for students opting to set up their own accommodation).

5. Local field-trips and excursions

- ✓ **How is the pandemic expected to affect the local field-trips and the excursions?**

The program will endeavor to carry out the excursions as planned, but for the time being these will be focused on destinations in Berlin and its surrounding area. Travel will take place by bus and/or train, subject to all pandemic-related measures that the companies running these busses or trains have put in place. The program and its

participants will be required to observe whatever regulations are in place at these various sites. As for local, inside-Berlin field-trips, these will be conducted in accordance with any regulations put in place by local authorities and by these specific sites (museums, memorial sites, government institutions, etc.) themselves.

6. On-site healthcare services

✓ **What services will be available?**

Beyond the broadly based, non-pandemic-related regular medical services available to participants, the program will provide referrals to students in need of specific, pandemic-related services, such as testing or quarantine-related matters. For situations involving the pandemic, the primary referral will be to the local public health offices (Gesundheitsämter), which serve as central coordinating service points.

✓ **Will I be covered by insurance?**

Participants can choose to be enrolled in German medical insurance (http://www.fubis.org/5_geb/versicherung/index.html) as part of the program. However, medical conditions that already existed before the start of the program are not covered by the insurance issued through the program. This also means that costs related to a Corona-infection diagnosed within the first two weeks of one's stay in Berlin will not be covered by the program's insurance (due to the incubation period associated with the virus). All participants are urged to retain medical insurance coverage back home during their time in Berlin as well.

✓ **How can I get tested in case of suspected symptoms?**

If you have relevant symptoms or you suspect that you could be infected with the coronavirus, you should follow the guidelines given under ["Who should get tested?"](#) Your borough health office will then decide how to proceed. If a test is to be carried out, it might happen – depending on the severity of your respiratory symptoms – that you are sent to one of the [special coronavirus screening center](#). You can also contact a [special Covid-19 doctor's office](#). Even before you have your test results, you should self-isolate at home, maintain a distance of two meters to other people, follow the rules for handwashing, and wear a mask covering your mouth and nose, ideally a medical mask, when you are in contact with others. The program should be notified immediately of a confirmed Covid-19 infection.

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