FAQ Hebrew University Corona Protocols

**Guidelines**

1. **Describe Hebrew U's COVID-19 Protocols:**
The University operates under Israel's "Green Pass" system. Guidelines are set by the Israel's ministry of Health. These guidelines change frequently and so for the most up-to-date information it is important to check with the [green pass website](#).

   Currently the University is operating under the following guidelines:
   - Anyone who enters Hebrew Us campus must present a valid Green Pass
   - Masks are mandated in all indoor spaces

2. **Does Hebrew U have a list of COVID protocols on the web?**
The Rothberg International School lists updated guidelines related to Covid-19 on its [webpage](#). This page includes:
   - A link to visa, entry and quarantine requirements upon arrival
   - A link to the Green Pass website
   - A link to the Hebrew University’s Covid-19 information page
   - Staff Directory

3. **Does Hebrew U have published sanitation protocols and social distancing and other containment protocols for campus? (link if available)**
   - In order to enter Israel all students must be vaccinated and/or recovered. Entry protocols are detailed here: [visa, entry and quarantine requirements upon arrival](#).
   - Anyone who wishes to enter campus must present a Green Pass indicating that they are either vaccinated or have received a negative PCR in the past 72 hours.
   - Mask wearing is mandated in all enclosed spaces on campus.

**Positive Case Protocols**

4. **Does Hebrew U have published positive-case protocols? (link if available)**
   - The Hebrew University has a Covid-19 superintendent on every Hebrew University campus of the Hebrew University. The superintendent conducts
real-time investigations of reported Covid cases and then appropriate notices to faculty/students are published shortly.

- The superintendents work in coordination and in accordance with Ministry of Health guidelines and all Covid incidents on campus are reported to the Ministry of Health.
- **Positive case protocol is managed by the Ministry of Health**, including contact tracing. Any person who receives a positive PCR is contacted by the Ministry of Health and instructed to quarantine.
- People with a valid "Green Pass" issued by Israel's Ministry of Health are exempt from quarantine in the case of exposure. However, they are strongly encouraged, and at times, required by the Ministry of Health to complete a PCR.
- The staff of the **Office of Student Life** accompanies and assists students throughout the quarantine period.

5. **Will exceptions to the attendance policy be made for students who become ill or who are in isolation?**
   Yes, students who are ill or in isolation will be able to attend their courses remotely or will have access to course recordings.

6. **How will students in isolation access food, medical care and medication?**
   - The Office of Student Life provides food, laundry, garbage etc.
   - The Harel/Clalit medical insurance covers Covid-19 treatment and medications.
   - Our Office of Student life helps students who are sick in arranging necessary medical care.

7. **Caring for a student who becomes ill with Covid-19**
   - **What hospital would they most likely go to for treatment?**
     If necessary, Hadassah Mt. Scopus is a 5-minute walk from the dorms.
   - **How will they be transported?**
     Depending on the situation they could do anything from walking there to being transported via ambulance.
   - **Is there an International Department?**
     All departments serve patients from around the world, English is not a problem.
   - **What level of care can they expect from hospital staff (meals)?**
     Students who are admitted will receive 3 meals a day and will receive excellent medical care.
   - **Will they be able to communicate with medical staff?**
     Yes, in English, a staff member from the office of Student Life will accompany them to the hospital- this is possible because our staff is vaccinated.
   - **Are visitors permitted?** Yes, as long as they are vaccinated.
   - **What other challenges might a student in hospital with COVID-19 face?**
     Fear, isolation. Cultural awareness. Our Office of Student COVID-19 will be in regular contact with a student who is hospitalized (for any reason) and serve as a resource while they are sick.
Communication with Students

8. Where/how is the COVID-19 protocol information (including sanitation protocols, social distancing and other containment protocols for campus, positive-case protocols, access to food, medication and medical care, etc.), being communicated to students?
   • Before their arrival students receive this document.
   • Upon their arrival students are briefed on Covid-19 and protocols as part of their (virtual) orientation.
   • Announcements in real time, related to exposures and containment, are sent to students via emails and messengers. The Office of Student Life checks in on all students who are in quarantine and arranges for necessary provisions.

9. What mitigation measures will be in place to reduce the spread of COVID-19 among roommates or household members?
   • Any student who develops symptoms will complete a PCR.
   • All apartments are treated as households.
   • There are no shared rooms, however, if a member of a suite were to test positive, the sick student would be moved to a separate apartment to quarantine.
   • Members of the apartment would likely need to complete a PCR test.

10. Where/how is the housing-related mitigation information being communicated to students?
    • Before they arrive, students receive quarantine information/ and requirements via email and as part of their pre-departure orientation.
    • As the situation develops and when warranted we have held virtual update sessions via Zoom.

Program Information

11. Does this program usually have field trips or excursions that are included in the program fees?
    • Yes, and they are running as planned in the Fall 2021 term. Adjustments may be made due to Covid-19 or any other factors which may warrant a change in the schedule.
    • The field trips are part of the program offered through the Office of Student Life, some may be overnight trips while others are day excursions. Some courses also offer fieldtrips. The exact schedule has not yet been finalized.
    • Information about activities have are listed on the Student Life FB page: https://www.facebook.com/StudentLifeRIS and in a weekly email sent to students.
10. What other program modifications will be made due to COVID-19 restrictions?
At the moment, we don't anticipate many modifications. If there is an additional outbreak of COVID-19 in Israel the Ministry of Health will issue broad guidelines: limiting the number of people in open and closed gathering, requiring masks in outdoor locations and if warranted "Shelter-in-place" orders. At the moment the trend is almost regular activity for those people with a "Green Pass".

11. Where/how is the above academic information (questions 9-10, in addition to information about the potential for hybrid courses, or online options in the case of isolation) being communicated to students?
Questions related to a specific course is communicated to students via the academic secretary for each department and via moodle.

12. If the student or a student's parent asks for additional support from staff than what was offered, how will that be handled?
We will do our best to meet the requests, when possible additional resources will be offered. Those requiring additional support should contact their academic division even prior to their arrival.

13. If there is a sudden change in conditions and international borders suddenly close, how will this be handled? For example, will students be advised to return to the US prior to an impending border closure, or is it expected that students will complete the program in country. Can the partner extend housing availability if a border closure delays students’ return to US?
Students can extend their housing or return home and continue their coursework remotely.

14. What other risks might students face, and how can they be mitigated? (Examples might include anti-US sentiment due to high-risk country, students’ pre-existing health issues, political/economic instability heightened by pandemic, COVID’s impact on local vulnerable populations, etc.)
The situation in Israel is always dynamic. We offer students a pre-departure orientation to discuss what they can expect upon arrival, they also receive an orientation upon their arrival where we discuss situational awareness and cultural sensitivities. Our Office of Student Life and the entire RIS staff are always available to help students negotiate these situations.