

Ref: OSHE 017/20

CIRCULAR 14

19 March 2020

All Staff and Students

COVID-19: NEW PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR RETURNING TRAVELLERS

Dear Colleagues and Students

1. In view of the heightened risk of importation of COVID-19 cases into Singapore, the [Ministry of Health \(MOH\)](#) has announced on Wednesday, 18 March 2020 that a 14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN) will be issued to returning Singaporeans, Permanent Residents, Long Term Pass holders and short term visitors from all countries, with effect from Friday, 20 March 2020, 11.59pm.
2. MOH has also advised Singaporeans to defer all travel abroad with immediate effect.
3. In addition to the Government's precautionary measures, staff and students returning on **Thursday, 19 March and Friday, 20 March 2020** from travel to countries not under the current Quarantine Order (QO), Stay-Home Notice (SHN) or Leave of Absence (LOA) list must adhere to **14 days of [social distancing](#)**. They must **work from home (for staff) and do e-learning (for students) with immediate effect**. Affected staff and students must stay away from NUS campuses during this 14-day period.
4. The latest precautionary measures implemented by the authorities, as well as NUS are as outlined in Table A below. These measures will also apply to all visitors from these countries to NUS. Visitors are to serve their QO, SHN, LOA or social distancing off campus, at their own expense.

**TABLE A:
 UPDATED PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR STAFF, STUDENTS AND VISITORS**

Country/Province	Precautionary Measures
Hubei province	QO
Mainland China (excluding Hubei province), Iran and Republic of Korea	SHN
France, Germany, Italy and Spain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return date on 14 Mar or 15 Mar: 14-day LOA • Return date on or after 16 Mar: 14-day SHN

Country/Province	Precautionary Measures
Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Myanmar, Philippines, Switzerland, Thailand, UK and Vietnam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return date on 15 Mar or 16 Mar: 14-day LOA • Return date on or after 17 Mar: 14-day SHN
Canada, Mexico, Turkey, USA and all other Schengan countries not listed above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return date between 17 Mar and 20 Mar: 14-day LOA • Return date on or after 21 Mar: 14-day SHN
All other countries not listed above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return date on 17 Mar or 18 Mar: 7-day social distancing • Return date on 19 Mar or 20 Mar: 14-day social distancing • Return date on or after 21 Mar: 14-day SHN
Malaysia	<p><u>BY AIR:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return date on 15 Mar or 16 Mar: 14-day LOA • Return date on or after 17 Mar: 14-day SHN <p><u>BY LAND OR SEA:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return date on or after 19 Mar: 14-day LOA

5. Daily Temperature Declaration

All staff and students are required to take their temperature twice daily, i.e. in the morning and afternoon (including weekends and public holidays), and declare the temperature readings in an [online system](#). **The first declaration of the day must be completed before you come to campus, whether for class or work.**

- a) Your compliance will be monitored for the safety of our community. Declaring your temperature is one of our control measures and any non-compliance may be dealt with in accordance with the NUS Code of Conduct and the NUS student disciplinary procedures.
- b) A new exemption request feature will also be incorporated into the online temperature declaration system on Monday, 23 March 2020. Exemptions can be granted on the following grounds:
 - Staff/student is overseas;
 - Staff/student has declared his/her temperature reading at his/her own workplace (i.e. interns, part-time students and adjunct/seconded staff);
 - Staff seconded to another organisation;
 - Staff with joint appointment at the National University Hospital or SingHealth;
 - Long term leave (e.g. maternity leave, sabbatical leave).
- c) Anyone with a temperature of 38°C or higher, or who has respiratory symptoms, e.g. cough, sore throat or runny nose (not due to pre-existing conditions) must not come to campus. You should wear a mask and immediately seek medical attention.

6. New and Existing Work Pass Holders

From Friday, 20 March 2020, 11.59pm, the [Ministry of Manpower \(MOM\)](#) will require all new and existing work pass holders (including dependants) planning to enter or return to

Singapore from any country, to **obtain MOM's approval before they commence their journey to Singapore**. Staff affected should get in touch with their HR partners in NUS.

7. As the COVID-19 situation is evolving rapidly, we must continue to be socially responsible, practise good personal hygiene, and take all necessary precautions for the health and wellbeing of our colleagues, students, friends and families.
8. If you have further questions, please email covid-19@nus.edu.sg or contact the management office of your department. Thank you.

Dr Peck Thian Guan
Director
Office of Safety, Health and Environment

Stay updated:

- NUS circulars, FAQs, emergency contact numbers, as well as useful links on the COVID-19 situation are available at emergency.nus.edu.sg.
- The latest NUS-related news, research and commentaries on COVID-19 are available [here](#).
- Updates from the Dean of Students can be seen [here](#).
- Please refer to the [Ministry of Health](#) for the latest information on the COVID-19 situation in Singapore and the [Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#) for travel advisories.