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CIRCULAR 3

5 March 2021

Dear Staff and Students

COVID-19: ADDITIONAL PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF RETURNING FROM OVERSEAS

1. There have been cases of more infectious virus mutations overseas recently, and that the incubation period of the virus may be longer than 14 days in some individuals. The Ministry of Education has thus requested all Institutes of Higher Learning to introduce additional precautionary measures for their students and staff who are returning from overseas.
2. **With effect from 7 March 2021, 2359 hrs**, staff and students who enter Singapore and have been served with a 14-day Stay-Home Notice (SHN) by the authorities **will be given an additional 7-day Leave of Absence (LOA) by NUS.**
3. **Students and staff who are on LOA**

Students are not allowed to attend face-to-face lessons and they are to engage in online learning, whenever possible. Staff on LOA should hold virtual lessons, work or attend meetings online, and not come to campus. If they are on campus during the LOA period, NUSafe will register a red alert, indicating that they are not supposed to be on campus.

 - a. Students and staff who live on campus

Those who stay on campus should remain in their rooms and hostels at all times. However, they can use the bathrooms/shower facilities, do the laundry, use the pantry besides collecting their takeaway meals from the dining hall or ordered food delivered at the ground floor of their hostel blocks etc.
 - b. Students and staff who live at home or off-campus accommodation

Those who stay at home or at off-campus accommodation are not allowed to come to campus throughout the LOA period. They are to remain in their place of residence during the LOA, except when performing essential activities such as buying food and essentials.

Please note:

- Students and staff on LOA must wear their face masks when they are outside their room/place of accommodation and observe the safe management measures at all times.
- They are to return to their place of residence as soon as possible after performing the essential activities.
- They should avoid going to crowded places or attending social gatherings.

4. The respective Faculty/School/Admin unit of the affected students and staff will reach out to them to check on their wellbeing.
5. If you have further questions, please check with the management office of your faculty, school or department, or email COVID-19@nus.edu.sg.

Dr Peck Thian Guan
Senior 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](#).
- Please refer to the [Ministry of Health](#) for the latest information on the COVID-19 situation in Singapore.