
Ref: OSHE 029/21

CIRCULAR 25

21 July 2021

NUS Staff and Students

COVID-19: TIGHTENED SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES AT NUS

Dear Colleagues and Students

1. On 20 July 2021, the Multi-Ministry Taskforce announced that it will reinstate [Phase 2 \(Heightened Alert\)](#) to better manage the increasing number of COVID-19 cases in the community.

NUS will be implementing the following Safe Management Measures (SMMs) **from Thursday, 22 July 2021 through Wednesday, 18 August 2021** for the continued safety and well-being of our students and staff. These new SMMs will supersede those previously announced in OSHE Circular 24 which was issued on 19 July 2021.

a. Work arrangements

- i. Work-from-home will continue to remain as the default arrangement except for staff on essential duties.
- ii. In-person meetings on campus are strongly discouraged. If meetings on campus are needed, they should be limited to **2 persons**. Staff must not remain on campus after the meeting is over.
- iii. Social and recreational gatherings at the workplace will not be allowed.

b. Academic activities

Face-to-face classes will remain capped at **a maximum of 50 persons** (including teaching staff) per venue, with the prevailing SMMs implemented.

c. Research activities

- i. **Research activities (lab-based)**: Lab-based research staff and students are allowed to return to campus to conduct their laboratory work. They need not be grouped into teams or shifts. However, the PI will ensure that not more than 75% of his/her research staff and student are in the lab at any one time. Lab users must also observe safe distancing of at least 2m between individuals while in the lab. Research work which can be conducted from home should continue as such.
- ii. **Research activities (not lab-based)**: Work from home is the default work arrangement. If meetings on campus are needed, they should be limited to **2 persons**. Staff must not remain on campus after the meeting is over.

d. Campus dining

- i. While no dining in at F&B outlets is allowed, staff, students and contractors may consume their food in the canteens and hostels. Only **1 diner per table** is allowed, and the seating is to be 2m apart. Masks must be worn at all times, except when eating or drinking, and there is to be no socialising.
- ii. Safe Distancing Ambassadors will be deployed during lunch time to ensure adherence to SMMs.

e. Sporting and CCA activities

- i. All in-person CCAs (including freshmen orientation activities) are to be suspended during this period. Online CCAs can be conducted where suitable.
- ii. The University gym and other indoor sports facilities will be closed until further notice. Indoor activities are prohibited; for outdoor activities, the group size is reduced to **not more than 2 persons per group**.

f. Venues with mass gatherings

The NUS Museum, Lee Kong Chian Natural History Museum and NUS Libraries are to operate at a **reduced capacity of 25%**.

2. For your safety and well-being, please continue to observe all safe management measures on our campuses, which include safe distancing, wearing of masks at all times, declaration of temperature through the uNivUS app, and the use of TraceTogether and NUSafe app. If you are unwell, please be socially responsibility and see a doctor immediately.
3. 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.