
Ref: ORMC 007/22

CIRCULAR 7

26 April 2022

NUS Staff and Students

COVID-19: FURTHER EASING OF SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES

1. On 22 April 2022, the Ministry of Health announced the further easing of community Safe Management Measures (SMMs) in a significant step towards the return to normalcy. New updates are highlighted in **yellow** for ease of reference.
2. From 26 April 2022, community SMMs will be eased along five key parameters:
 - a. Group size – **There will no longer be a group size limit.** Individuals will not be required to keep to a group of 10 persons.
 - b. Mask-wearing – Mask-wearing continues to be required in indoor settings, including on NUS internal shuttle buses, in lecture theatres, seminar rooms and hostel premises, but optional in outdoor settings.
 - **Speakers can remove their mask when giving their speech, but should remain at least 1 metre away from participants when giving their speech.**
 - While masks should be worn in indoor settings, **staff may remove their masks when they are seated at their work stations and if the work stations are physically separated from each other by at least 1 metre.** They must, however, wear masks when they are interacting physically with others and in customer-facing areas.
 - c. Workplace requirements – **From 28 April 2022, all staff can return to the workplace regardless of vaccination status. Unvaccinated staff are required to do regular FET testing (see para 3 below).** Heads of Department are encouraged to retain and promote flexible work arrangements such as telecommuting and staggered work hours to avoid peak period crowds.
 - d. Safe distancing – **Safe distancing continues to be encouraged but will not be required** between individuals or groups for both mask-on and outdoor mask-off settings.
 - e. Capacity limit – **All capacity limit for large-scale setting and events will be lifted.** 100% of venue capacity may be utilised if required.

3. Fast and Easy Testing

- a. As announced earlier, Fast and Easy Testing (FET) is no longer required for vaccinated¹ staff and students.

¹ You will be considered as unvaccinated if you are (i) not fully vaccinated; or (ii) have not taken your booster within 270 days after completing your primary dose; or (iii) have not uploaded your vaccination status in uNivUS; or (iv) did not apply for FET exemption after a COVID infection (See [Circular 3/2022](#)).

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- b. As a safeguard against COVID-19 transmission on campus, FET using Antigen Rapid Tests (ART) will continue to apply for unvaccinated hostelites, **staff** and students (see [Circular 5/2022](#)):
- Unvaccinated hostelites will continue to upload a valid FET result to uNivUS every Sunday and Wednesday (see [Circular 34/2021](#)).
 - **Unvaccinated staff** and students are required to upload a valid FET test result to uNivUS before coming to campus. The validity of the FET result is 4 days.
- Unvaccinated staff can upload their FET results from 28 April 2022 onwards.**
- c. For (b) above, the cost of FET kits is to be borne by the individual. The FET kits can be purchased from the vending machines on campus.
- d. Non-compliance with FET requirements will result in restriction of WiFi access for students, and email access for staff for the day (see [Circular 36/2021](#)).
- e. Staff and students are to exercise personal responsibility and test themselves using the FET kits if they are unwell or are exposed to an infected person. Should they test positive, they are to update their health status on uNivUS, inform their close contacts, and adhere to COVID-19 [health protocols](#).
- f. Where necessary, vaccinated and medically ineligible staff and students can continue to collect free FET test kits if they self-test and upload two FET test results in uNivUS.

4. Vaccination-Differentiated SMMs (VDS) on Campus

- a. **VDS is no longer required as an entry requirement to campus.** All individuals can enter the campus regardless of vaccination status.
- b. However, VDS is still required for events with more than 500 participants (if non-NUS members are involved), or for dining on campus.
- c. From next semester, staff and students living on campus will need to be fully vaccinated or medically exempted.

While the local COVID-19 situation has stabilised and allowed us to further ease our SMMs, we still need to stay vigilant and socially responsible. Please continue to follow all health protocols as we strive towards COVID-19 resilience.

If you have further questions, please check with the management office of your faculty, school or department, or email COVID-19@nus.edu.sg.

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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.