



DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY  
INVUVESI YASETHEKWINI YEZOBUCHWEPHESHE

## UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

18 March 2020

### **ADDITIONAL PROTOCOLS FOR RESIDENCE STUDENTS DURING EXTENDED RECESS**

**TO: ALL RESIDENCE STUDENTS (DUT-OWNED AND LEASED)**

**FROM: DEAN OF STUDENTS**

Dear Residence Students

It is now common cause that our university has gone into first-term recess until Tuesday, 14 April 2020. Yesterday, the Minister of Higher Education informed the nation that all universities will go into recess from today. This decision was made in consultation with various stakeholders, including the South African Union of Students (SAUS).

While many other institutions directed their residence students to vacate residences within 72 hours, DUT, in consultation with the SRC President, chose to be considerate by allowing our students, who would not be able to vacate immediately, to continue staying in residences until Friday 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2020, which would otherwise have been, the official end of the first quarter/term as per the university's calendar. To this end, the following additional protocols shall apply, in order to prevent exposure, contracting and spreading of the coronavirus, which has been declared a national disaster and global pandemic:

- **Student Housing Related Protocols**

1. No visitors are allowed in residences until further notice.
2. A daily curfew between 19h00-06h00 i.e. residences will be closed at 19h00 daily to ensure that you are all within the confines of your living spaces.

**The curfew is intended to minimize exposure, both to yourselves and fellow students.**

**Failure to adhere to this reasonable preventative measure could lead to immediate eviction without further correspondence.**

3. All social and recreational activities/functions in residences are suspended until further notice.
4. Access to social spaces/common rooms is suspended to maximize the social distancing protocol.
5. You are also urged to maintain high levels of personal hygiene within your living spaces at all times.
6. RAs will conduct unannounced inspections to ensure compliance.

7. All residents are expected to vacate all residences as soon as they are able to do so but not later than 15h00 on Friday 03<sup>rd</sup> April 2020
8. Security to enforce hand hygiene at the entrance of each residence.
9. Buses to inter-campus and residence to campus have been suspended.

- **Student Wellness Related Protocols**

Kindly take note that our Campus Health Clinics are essentially primary health facilities whose resources are limited to performing routine primary health functions and screening/testing. However, in response to the current national disaster the following shall apply in addition to the widely published set of relevant protocols:

**Prevention**

- Stay at home when you are sick. Contact the nearest health facility
- If in Residence notify the RA to contact the campus clinic telephonically. Stay in your room.
- Avoid close contact with people who are sick or show symptoms of the virus.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water or alcohol-based sanitiser (60-85% alcohol).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Practice cough etiquette, covering your cough or sneeze.
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.

**Criteria for Person Under Investigation (PUI) as per NICD guidelines**

Persons with acute respiratory illness with sudden onset of at least one of the following:

- cough,
- sore throat,
- shortness of breath or
- fever [ $\geq 38^{\circ}\text{C}$  (measured) or history of fever

AND

- In the 14 days prior to onset of symptoms, met at least one of the following epidemiological criteria:

- Were in close contact with a confirmed or probable case of SARS-CoV-2 infection;

OR

- Had a history of travel to areas with local transmission of SARS-CoV-2; (NB Affected countries will change with time, consult the NICD website for current updates);

OR

- Worked in, or attended a health care facility where patients with SARS-CoV-2 infections were being treated;

OR

- Admitted with severe pneumonia of unknown cause.

### Protocols for DUT Community

- Where cleaning and or disinfection is required, the Chief Professional Nurse/ Residence Advisor/Safety Officer or other designated person to inform the cleaning company.
- Identify close contacts at residence or students/ staff travelling from home including health staff for monitoring.
- Strict hand hygiene before and after contact with every patient/staff/student.
- Personal Protective Equipment – (PPE) Use of N95/3ply masks and at least a level 2 gown for health staff. All staff at Campus clinic reception must don correct PPE.
- The focus of care and treatment will be supportive and isolation until transportation to nearest designated health facility.
- Keep contact with designated hospital and isolation ward until student arrives at the designated facility.
- Evacuate the waiting room and ensure clear passage for Emergency Personnel at entrance of Clinic.

Contact person for Provincial CDC in KZN is: Premi Govender- 0710716092505 or [Premi.govender@kznhealth.gov.za](mailto:Premi.govender@kznhealth.gov.za)

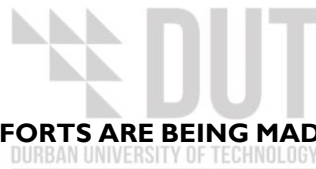
Contact person for emergency medical service as follows:

Mr Mabaso: 0834571212

Mr Zungu (Director EMS): 0835011955

Details of Toll free number:

**Corona Virus Hotline 0800 029999**



**NB: FURTHER TAKE NOTE THAT ALL EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE FOR AN EARLIER DISBURSEMENT OF APRIL ALLOWANCES TO EXPEDITE THE PROCESS OF VACATING RESIDENCES.**

Thank you very much for your understanding and co-operation.

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DEAN OF STUDENTS