

## UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

02 February 2022

Dear students and staff

### 2022 BACK TO CAMPUS: TEACHING AND LEARNING PLAN

We would like to welcome you to the first semester of 2022 and wish you a safe and successful year ahead. South Africa has navigated the fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic and as more people get fully vaccinated, we can focus our attention on how best to live with the virus and manage the associated risks. However, we remind you that we still have specific COVID-19 protocols in place that govern access to campus, the daily HealthCheck online form and compulsory face masks, amongst others.

Registrations for 2022 have commenced online and DUT is working hard to ensure a stable start to the year. We also take this opportunity to welcome our first-year students to DUT and we congratulate them for their successful grade 12 results which they recently achieved.

As we prepare to commence with the academic programme for the year, please review the main points of the 2022 Back to Campus: Teaching and Learning Plan below.

### RETURNING STUDENTS

- The university will continue to offer online lectures.
- Should the lockdown level allow, the university will offer mask-to-mask teaching and learning ONLY to students exiting the system. Permits to access campus will be granted to these students who are enrolled for the exit modules.
- Permits to access campus will be granted only to students who require access to the practical laboratories, as well as those students whose conditions at home are not conducive for learning. These students will have to follow the process that we put in place in 2020.
- Students will be permitted to be on campus, provided they meet the criteria of the Policy Choices on Vaccination of Staff and Students, which was approved by the University Council on 4 December 2021. <https://dut-cdn2.azureedge.net/wpcontent/uploads/2021/12/DUT.Statement.Council.091221-1.pdf>
- Student Housing should begin to receive qualifying students on the weekend preceding the commencement of lectures.

## FIRST TIME ENROLLED (FTEN) STUDENTS

- All FTEN students will be permitted to attend mask-to-mask lectures provided they meet the criteria of the Policy Choices on Vaccination of Staff and Students, which was approved by the University Council on 4 December 2021. The link to the policy announcement was listed above. The orientation programme for the FTEN students will take place between 07 - 11 February 2022.
- The university will accommodate qualifying FTEN students who are eligible to be at residences.
- Faculties will issue permits to all eligible students.

## HEALTH AND SAFETY MEASURES

- Cleaning of residences will be made before the arrival students.
- The use of face masks remains compulsory on all university property.
- The HealthCheck online form will be used as a screening tool for COVID-19. You can access the HealthCheck form in three ways:
  1. Dial HealthCheck on \*134\*832\*2# (This is a free call).
  2. Go to: <https://healthcheck.higherhealth.ac.za>.
  3. Add 0600 110 000 - <https://wa.me/27600110000?text=hi> to your WhatsApp to contacts.

With regards to the health screening arrangements for returning students, the DUT COVID-19 Response Task Team would like to highlight:

- Awareness campaign of the risks of COVID-19 infection and the preventive & health promotion measures. Please access the DUT COVID-19 webpage which includes helpful resources on <https://www.dut.ac.za/coronavirus/>.
- All students **MUST** complete the HealthCheck screening **BEFORE** arrival to campus. This will allow Protection Services, Residences Advisors and other support personnel to ensure that only eligible students will be permitted to return to campus.
- A detailed list of students arriving at the campus gate and/or the residences will be provided by the relevant Faculties.
- Accreditation/Permits must be presented at all times, to enable entry onto campus in order to ensure authorised access to DUT property.

Should any of the above be revised during the course of the semester, we will notify you timeously.

## CONCLUSION

The COVID-19 pandemic has not ended as yet and whilst the infection rate in our country has decreased, we all need to remain alert and prevent a fifth wave in South Africa. Therefore, the University continues to urge all students and staff to get fully vaccinated. The DUT Vaccination Programme is still continuing this year and you can get more information by emailing the DUT COVID-19 Response Task Team on the email address detailed below.

- DUT's COVID-19 Response Task Team Hotline: 031 373 3760 or 031 373 2223 (office hours), or please email: [covid-enquiries@dut.ac.za](mailto:covid-enquiries@dut.ac.za).
- COVID-19 Hotline: 0800 029 999.
- COVID-19 WhatsApp Support Line: 0600 123 456.
- <https://sacoronavirus.co.za>

Finally, we remind all students and staff to only access official university statements via the DUT PinBoard (staff email system), DUT4life (student email accounts) and the DUT website. Please stay safe and all the best for the first semester.

Sincerely,

DUT Teaching & Learning team

