

No. 39 | Back to Berlin!

Dear students, dear teachers,

We are delighted at the prospect of finally welcoming you back to Berlin!

We will soon be in the winter term at the start of a new academic year at the Eisler. In this new term we want to find our way back to a “new normality”, to study and work together again in the trusted as well as in the tried and tested new ways of the past months. And we want to accompany you, dear students, on your path towards a music degree and your start into professional life.

The Berlin universities (LKRP) have just carried out a survey on the vaccination of students in Berlin: 42.000 students, 200 from the HfM, took part in the survey. The result shows that 83% of Berlin students are fully vaccinated. Even if surveys always have to be taken with a pinch of salt, these figures show us that vaccination is well advanced amongst students and we can have justified hope for an almost normal, full term from October.

You students have let us know that in the last three semesters you have above all lacked practical experience on stage and in major artistic projects. Via the AStA we have been told in no uncertain terms that the numerous fully vaccinated students rightly expect to experience no further corona restrictions for the large-scale projects in this coming term. We also consider it essential to exhaust every possibility to offer you the maximum of projects in person and without restrictions. You require the large-scale orchestra, choir and the scenic projects in order to continue and complete your studies successfully.

We have been waiting for every member of our university community to receive a vaccination offer in order to reach maximum protection for all members of our community. We thank you for your solidarity in showing consideration for those who had not yet been vaccinated during the summer term. In keeping with the regulations in Berlin and those of the Accident Insurance Fund, which the arts organizations in Berlin are adhering to, those of you who are fully vaccinated can legally take part in projects as usual - without restrictions on the number of participants in a room, without distancing or masks. We want to make this possible for you in the winter semester.

For the winter semester 2021/22, the 3G guideline (vaccinated, recovered, tested) issued by the state of Berlin applies as an **absolute basic requirement** for participation in courses, practical formats and face-to-face exams. Thus, the 3G guideline is sufficient for **individual practice, ensemble rehearsals and individual or group lessons**, provided that the prescribed distances are kept to.

After intensive consultation with the AStA and the departments A-D as well as with the State of Berlin, we have agreed the following for **our special situation as a music academy** for the major projects of the winter semester:

- There will be the possibility for all **vaccinated and recovered persons (2G)** under the given regulations to carry out large projects without distancing, masks or restrictions in participant numbers.
- For all **unvaccinated persons (3G)** there will be parallel projects - according to the current regulations and adhering to the prescribed distancing and, if necessary, mask for your own protection.

You find a comparative overview of the options for studying in accordance with the 3G and 2G guidelines (in German) here:

[Lehr- und Übebetrieb im Wintersemester 2021/22](#)

You will receive further detailed explanations about practice and teaching in the winter semester by October 1st.

**For the successful implementation of the winter semester, we ask for your help: We have to know and plan early if you need a 3G-compliant parallel project.
We will inform about how to let us know separately in good time!**

All of our plans are based on the currently applicable Infection Protection Ordinance. Should this change, we will have to adapt our approach accordingly.

On the subject of **test certificates**: For members of the university who are neither vaccinated nor recovered, there is still a test obligation and thus a need for test options. To date it was possible to get free citizen tests (rapid antigen tests) at many places in Berlin. This public offer ends on October 11th. From this date the State of Berlin will no longer allow or finance free tests in universities either. From this point on, all unvaccinated students and lecturers are responsible for organizing and paying for their required test certificates.

If you would like to take advantage of the university's vaccination offer or would like advice, please contact our corona management at corona@adm.hfm-berlin.de

We are investigating possibilities for those of you coming from abroad who have been vaccinated with a vaccine not approved in the EU., We are currently in discussion with both the responsible politicians in Germany and at the same time with several researchers and scientists to find a solution - possibly with an additional mRNA cross-vaccination. Here, too, we will keep you up to date with our corona mails!

As you see, we still have some organisational hurdles ahead of us in the aftermath of the pandemic: but the most important thing is to solve all of these in person in Berlin! Have a good trip back, the Eisler is waiting for you!

Best regards

Sarah Wedl-Wilson
Präsident

Professorin Andrea Tober
Prorektor

Hans-Joachim Völz
Kanzler