

SUNWAY EDUCATION GROUP

COVID-19 Advisory 31

UPDATE: MOHE ADVISORY ON THE RE-ENTRY OF STUDENTS ON CAMPUS BEGINNING 1 MARCH

Dear Students, Parents and Staff Members of the Sunway Education Group (SEG) community,

UPDATES FROM THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION: THE 6 CATEGORIES

1. We would like to share with you the latest update from the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) regarding the re-entry of students to their respective Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) campuses beginning 1 March 2021. This latest update was communicated to us via letter dated 15 February 2021 and provides details to MoHE's statement from 31 January 2021¹.
2. According to MoHE, **six (6) categories of students with specific requirements** (*pelajar berkeperluan*) **will be allowed to return to campus physically as early as 1 March 2021** to attend Teaching and Learning (T&L) either physically and/or online. The six categories of students are:
 - 2.1. Students from Certificate, Diploma, Bachelor and Postgraduate programmes who require practical, laboratory and clinical training, as well as access to studios, workshops and specialised equipment;
 - 2.2. Students who do not have access to adequate internet connection and their environment is not conducive for online learning;
 - 2.3. Existing students from Foundation or Pre-University and Diploma programmes based in SEG residences. Since they are allowed to continue learning in hybrid mode (i.e. online or face to face), their individual directors of programmes and institutions will advise on the details pertaining to their classes;
 - 2.4. All new and existing international students. The International Office will advise all existing and new international students, except those from the United Kingdom, on matters pertaining to the requirement for their return to the country. International students must undergo the RT-PCR COVID-19 Screening Test three (3) days before arrival in Malaysia. There will be a mandatory quarantine upon arrival of either seven (7) days (for students who submit RT-PCR test report upon arrival) or ten (10) days (for those who do not bring along the RT-PCR test report), before being allowed to return to campus. For more information, please visit <https://educationmalaysia.gov.my/> or the SEG International Office at +6 019 336 2242 or email info@sunway.edu.my;
 - 2.5. Students with special needs (OKU); and

¹ <https://www.mohe.gov.my/en/media-mohe/press-statement/1420-kemasukan-semula-pelajar-ke-kampus-secara-fizikal-bermula-1-mac-2021>

- 2.6. Students who are scheduled to sit for the Malaysian University English Test (MUET) as well as international and professional bodies examinations.
3. Students falling within these six (6) categories will be **issued with permission letters to return to campus by their respective institutions/ schools.**
4. MOHE has advised that all other students are asked to continue their T&L online.

MOVEMENT OF STUDENTS FROM SABAH/ SARAWAK AND INTER-STATE/ INTER-DISTRICT TRAVEL

5. The Ministry also announced that students:
 - 5.1. **from Peninsular Malaysia, Labuan and Sabah returning to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Sarawak:**
 - a. are **REQUIRED** to do RT-PCR Swab Test within three (3) days before the flight to Sarawak; and
 - b. must undergo a 14-day quarantine at a quarantine centre set by the State Government. The cost of the quarantine will be borne by the Sarawak State Government
 - 5.2. **from Peninsular Malaysia, Labuan and Sarawak returning to HEIs in Sabah:**
 - a. are **REQUIRED** to do RT-PCR Swab Test within three (3) days before the flight to Sabah
 - 5.3. **from Sabah returning to HEIs in Peninsular Malaysia:**
 - a. are **REQUIRED** to do RT-PCR Swab Test within three (3) days before the flight
 - 5.4. **from Sarawak returning to HEIs in Peninsular Malaysia:**
 - a. are **NOT REQUIRED** to undergo the swab test.
6. Costs for the swab test for students' entry to Sabah and Sarawak as well as for Sabah students leaving Sabah will be borne by the Ministry of Health (MOH). Further details to be announced in due course.
7. Students who need to **cross district or state lines** to return to campus are **required to obtain the necessary travel permit and approval from the respective police station** nearest to them. When applying for the travel permit, **please remember:**
 - 7.1. to bring along the letter issued by your institution;
 - 7.2. to fill up the inter-district/ inter-state form beforehand. Form for travel from MCO states downloadable [here](#) and form for CMCO states can be downloaded [here](#); and
 - 7.3. to prepare **two (2) copies** of said documents.

ISOLATION AND CAMPUS RE-ENTRY

8. **All students who will be staying in SEG residences** coming from MCO/ CMCO states **will be required undergo a 10-day isolation** upon their return to their residence. The Residence Management Team will be providing guidance to students living in our residences on the latest MoHE requirements as well as the support that will be provided throughout.
9. Students **requiring entry to campus daily or based on their class/ laboratory/ practical/ exam schedules**, will be allowed to do so in line with the existing entry SOPs, which include getting their temperature checked and filling up the e-declaration/ MySejahtera form at all entrance points.
10. For students **who may not be able to return to campus for various reasons**, please contact your respective Institutions/ Schools. Rest assured that your learning will not be compromised. Please contact your respective Institutions/ Schools for specific information regarding your individual programmes.

HYBRID TEACHING & LEARNING THROUGHOUT 2021

11. We are committed towards ensuring that our students attain their programme learning outcomes. We understand that the rapidly evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic has impacted the T&L process, which has had to alternate between online and physical learning.
12. As such, please be informed that the **T&L delivery for taught programmes in 2021 will be conducted via hybrid learning mode, i.e. online and face-to-face, as applicable**. This means that even if the campus is allowed by the authorities be fully opened for face-to-face classes later this year, students who are unable to return for the physical classes will still be able to access their classes online for the rest of the year.
13. We believe that this approach will enable our students, as well as parents, to plot their education plans with some confidence in these uncertain times. It is also part of our commitment to ensure that no learner is left behind in this new normal and that education is always accessible to all our students at all times.
14. Our institutions/ schools will provide further clarity on the approach based on the delivery mode of the respective programmes.

OTHER MATTERS AND CONCLUSION

15. We are continuously reviewing and improving our SOPs to safeguard the health and safety of all our students, staff and individuals accessing our campuses. For instance, in anticipation of our students return, we will be increasing signages and re-aligning public spaces throughout campus to ensure that physical distancing is always observed. Anyone not in compliance with the SOPs will be asked to leave the campus premises by our security personnel.
16. We would also like to add that students and staff play a role in reminding each other to strictly comply with the SOPs. Please remind your colleagues or friends if they have momentarily forgotten to observe the SOPs. If you are exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms (such as high

temperature, flu, fever, sore throat, etc) or feeling unwell in any way whatsoever, you will not be allowed to enter campus and are advised to go for a medical check-up. Entry to campus will only be allowed once you have fully recovered, have a medical certificate, or no longer exhibit any of the above-mentioned symptoms. The onus is very much on you to keep yourself, as well as those nearby, safe.

17. I would like to take this opportunity to thank SEG staff who have been working hard to ensure that our students learning continues regardless of the pandemic and that our students currently sitting for international and professional examinations, including those who need special access to facilities for their hybrid T&L, are able to do so during this MCO period. **In anticipation of our students return in March and April**, let us continue with our efforts.

Stay safe and stay healthy. Thank you.

Professor Elizabeth Lee

Chief Executive Officer

Sunway Education Group

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