



## THE RECTOR

**Pursuant to** Law Decree no. 24 of 24 March 2022 (a.k.a. "decreto riapertura"), containing urgent measures to phase out Covid-19 restrictions, following the end of the state of emergency;

**Acknowledging** that new government provisions set the end of the state of emergency on 31 March 2022 and provide for a gradual return to normal across sectors, including university education;

**Pointing out** that, despite the end of the state of emergency, a return to normal must be "gradual" and some essential precautionary rules must be maintained to a reasonable extent, in order to counter the continuing spread of the Covid-19 pandemic;

**Pointing out** that for this purpose new protocols and specific guidelines will be adopted by order of the Minister of Health;

**Considering** that, in the light of the new regulatory framework, there is a need to review and update operational guidelines for all University activities, as well as SARS-CoV-2 infection management protocols;

**Pointing out** that different rules and timelines still apply to schools and universities, as compared to other sectors, and that pursuant to art. 10, paragraph 3 of Law Decree no. 24 of 24 March 2022 (extension of the terms related to the state of emergency from Covid-19), **until 30 April 2022** the provisions of Article 1, paragraph 2, subparts a), b) and c) of Law Decree no. 111 of 6 August 2021, as converted and amended by Law no. 113 of 24 September 2021, will continue to apply to university institutions;

**Considering** that special provisions for universities still require the following preventative measures until 30 April 2022:

- a) the use of respiratory protective equipment (face masks)
- b) compliance with an interpersonal safety distance of at least one meter, unless the structural-logistical conditions of the buildings make it impossible
- c) the prohibition to access or remain on school and university premises for anyone with respiratory symptoms or body temperature above 37.5°.

**Considering** the provisions of art. 8, paragraph 4 of the aforementioned Law Decree and the persistence of the vaccination requirement for university staff until 15 June 2022;

**Given** the operational circular sent out by the Minister of University and Research on 25 March 2022, in order to ensure a timely and consistent application of the new provisions, whereby Article 1, paragraph 1 of Law Decree of 6 August 2021 shall stand;

**Taking into account** that Article 1, paragraph 1 of Law Decree no. 111 of 6 August 2021 remains in force (*"in the 2021-2022 academic year, teaching and curricular activities of universities are carried out primarily in person"*); our academic planning must therefore provide for educational activities to be carried out *"primarily in person"* as from 1 April, without prejudice to organizational leeway and flexibility in relation to epidemiological conditions;



## HEREBY DECREES AS FOLLOWS:

### **Art. 1 – Vaccination Requirement**

For all university staff, regardless of age, the vaccination requirement is extended **until 15 June 2022**.

Only for university staff working in public and/or private hospitals (whether affiliated or non-affiliated), the vaccination requirement shall stand until **31 December 2022**.

From 1 April to 15 June 2022, non-compliance with the vaccination requirement shall be sanctioned only by the Ministry of Health (through the Revenue Agency), since the provisions of Article 4-ter of Law Decree no. 44/2021, which required employers to suspend non-compliant staff from work, with no salary, are no longer in force.

### **Art. 2 - Access to the Workplace – Green Pass**

From **1 April to 30 April 2022** all university staff, including over 50s, will be required to hold any Covid-19 certificate (i.e. following vaccination, healing or testing, a.k.a. "green pass base") for purposes of access to the workplace.

The requirement to hold a so-called "super green pass" has been lifted.

On the other hand, the requirements to use individual respiratory protective equipment (face masks) and to keep an interpersonal distance of at least 1 meter, as well as the prohibition of accessing the workplace with a body temperature above 37.5 remain unchanged until 30 April.

It is always recommended to use FFP2 masks.

Starting from **1 May 2022**, staff may access the workplace **with no green pass**, without prejudice to the vaccination requirement referred to in art. 1.

### **Art. 3 – Activities of Technical, Administrative and Library Staff Working Remotely**

For the activities of technical, administrative and library staff working remotely, the specific measures already issued by General Management shall stand, in compliance with current laws and the [Memorandum of understanding on working time, smart and remote working for technical administrative and library staff](#), signed by the public administration and trade unions on 23 December 2020.

Please note that only those who have regularly signed an individual remote working plan (PILA) may work from home up to 7 days per month (**not on a cumulative basis**), subject to their manager's approval. All information for drafting a PILA can be found at: <https://work.unimi.it/rlavoro/125375.htm>.



## **Art. 4 – Workers with Underlying Health Concerns**

Law Decree no. 24 of 24 March 2022, as published in the Official Gazette, does not provide for any extension of the provisions in favour of workers with underlying health concerns, who, as of 1 April 2022, may work remotely pursuant to art. 3.

It should be noted that new provisions on health surveillance have been introduced that allow the occupational physician to take action to help those workers who are most exposed to the risk of contagion.

## **Art. 5 - Access of Students and Other Users to University Facilities**

From **1 April to 30 April 2022**, students and users of university services will be able to access facilities, classrooms, study rooms, libraries and other indoor spaces only if they hold a "green pass base" (i.e. following vaccination, healing or testing). They will also have to wear respiratory protective equipment (surgical masks as a minimum).

In open spaces these requirements are lifted.

**Starting from 1 May 2022** the "green pass base" will no longer be required to access University offices, as for all other public offices.

Medical students and residents, as well as health professionals in training, will be required to be vaccinated and hold a "super green pass" **until 31 December 2022**.

## **Art. 6 – Isolation of Covid-19 Positive Cases and Self-surveillance Following Close Contacts**

An upcoming circular from the Ministry of Health will contain detailed measures on the isolation of people who have tested positive for Covid-19 and self-surveillance following close contacts.

Starting from 1 April 2022, it is forbidden to leave home (or residence) for people put in **isolation** by the health authority as they tested positive for Covid-19, until recovery is confirmed. As of the same date, those who have had close contact with confirmed Covid-19 positive cases will be under **self-surveillance**, i.e. they will be required to wear FFP2 masks, indoors or in gatherings, up to ten days after the date of the last close contact and to take a rapid or molecular antigen test at the onset of symptoms and, if still symptomatic, on the fifth day following the date of the last contact.

With the new regulatory provisions and the end of the emergency period, so-called "close contact quarantines" are no longer required.

## **Art. 7 - Lectures and Other Face-to-Face Teaching Activities**

Starting from 1 April 2022, classes and other lectures must be carried out **in person**.

From 1 April to 30 April 2022, only students holding a "green pass base" may attend face-to-face lectures. Seat reservation is required. It should be remembered that for the time being the Covid-19 certificate is issued also to unvaccinated individuals with a negative molecular (or rapid antigen) test result in the last 48 hours, or those who have recovered from Covid-19.

**For detailed information:** <https://www.dgc.gov.it/web/>



**Starting from 1 May, access to classes will be unrestricted.**

Lectures will be held according to the applicable semester/quarter calendar, drawn up based on the number of in-person learning hours set out in W4, with class times starting at 8:30 a.m.

The classrooms may be occupied at full capacity. Until 30 April, the use of protective masks is mandatory in classrooms. The use of FFP2 masks is recommended.

Until 30 April, students will be required to reserve a seat in the classroom through the *LezioniUnimi* application or the Timetable Portal. **From 1 May access to classrooms will be unrestricted.**

**Until 31 July 2022, all classes will be live streamed.**

Streaming will encourage the participation of students with underlying health concerns or weakened immune systems, or without a green pass (until 30 April), as well as international students who are unable to be present in the classroom.

Classes need not be recorded; however, the individual Executive Committees and/or Academic Boards may decide to implement specific modes (e.g. time-limited access to video content, type of lectures) in order to handle issues arising from the specific nature of a given academic programme. The option for individual instructors to provide students with any kind of material intended to facilitate their learning, including class recordings via the Ariel platform, shall stand.

Should the in-class spaces be insufficient to permit in-class participation for the entire day, an option will be provided to attend lectures from a study room or library, for those students who have booked only certain hours of a given day of lectures. All locations shall have the option to charge computers and smartphones used to attend remote lectures.

**The University Administration will take a proactive stance on increasing educational assistance and support services, both in “smart” and traditional classrooms.**

Attendance, where required, will be checked according to the procedures set out by each academic board.

Given the major changes affecting higher education, and the efforts made to increase access to new digital opportunities, submission of projects to test out new learning modes (including student-centred learning, and the implementation of approaches first tried last year) will be encouraged, and support for these efforts provided. The ultimate goal is to integrate online learning with classroom learning, through the implementation of a variety of active and participatory strategies (teamwork, flipped strategies, case studies, small discussion sections with breakout rooms and large groups, problem-based scenarios) and technological tools (Moodle, Microsoft Teams, Zoom, videos, forums, etc.), which increase student engagement and optimise in-class activities.



## Art. 8 - Written Exams

Written exams will take place **in person**.

**Until 30 April, a "green pass base" will be required for in-person written exams.**

It should be remembered that for the time being the Covid-19 certificate is issued also to unvaccinated individuals with a negative molecular (or rapid antigen) test result in the last 48 hours, or those who have recovered from Covid-19. For detailed information: <https://www.dgc.gov.it/web/>

**Starting from 1 May, the green pass will no longer be required.**

## Art. 9 - Oral Exams

In line with the latest government measures, **from 1 April** oral exams shall **ordinarily** be held **in person**.

## Art. 10 - Exams to Be Taken by Students on International Mobility Programmes

In compliance with the resolutions passed by the Academic Senate on 16 June 2020 and 16 March 2021, international mobility students are authorized to take the exams at the University while attending the courses provided by the host institution. Exams at the University may be sat in person or remotely, as posted to <https://www.unimi.it/it/studiare/frequentare-un-corso-di-laurea/seguire-il-percorso-di-studi/esami/esami-distanza-faq-gli-studenti> or the respective study programme page.

## Art. 11 – Graduation Exams

The final exam will take place as set out in the Study Programme ("Manifesto degli studi").

Final exams for Bachelor's degree, Master's degree, and single-cycle Master's degree programmes will all be held in person.

**Until 30 April, a "green pass base" will be required. This requirement will be lifted as of 1 May.**

For logistical reasons, it is imperative that graduation sessions be scheduled for Saturday mornings as well.

**Access will be unrestricted for purposes of the regular conduct of exams.**

## Art. 12 – Faculty Office Hours

Each faculty member shall hold office hours either in person or remotely, in accordance with the previously established and posted office-hour schedule. **Until 30 April, a "green pass base" will be required for face-to-face meetings.**

## Art. 13 - Laboratory and Field Activities, PhD Programmes, On-Campus Internships

Laboratory activities, including teaching and research, undergraduate and postgraduate thesis work, and on-campus internships, will be carried out in person, in compliance with safety and health provisions. To that end, laboratory facilities have been inspected by the Safety, Sustainability and



Environment Division, in order to update occupancy parameters in relation to the current situation of a gradual return to normal.

For the purposes of this decree, field activities shall be deemed equivalent to all laboratory activities.

**For the performance of all the activities referred to in this article, a "green pass base" will be required until 30 April, after which no certificate will be required.**

#### **Art. 14 – Masters and Advanced Courses**

Educational activities in any Master's or advanced course may be held in person or online as the specific educational goals require.

**For the performance of in-person activities, a "green pass base" will be required until 30 April, after which no certificate will be required.**

#### **Art. 15 – Training Activities for Medical Doctors in Specialist Training and Trainees in the Health Professions**

Pursuant to the law, the training activities for medical doctors in specialist training will be carried out in person, according to current procedures.

The activities of trainees in the health professions will ordinarily take place in person, subject to a specific agreement with the training hospitals, and in compliance with safety standards required by law and by the current University Protocol.

**For all activities referred to in this article, vaccination and a "super green pass" will be required until 31 December 2022.**

#### **Art. 16 – Off-Campus Student and Graduate Internships**

Off-campus internships will be carried out in compliance with current laws on safety and public health protection.

Information on starting and managing curricular (student) and extra-curricular (graduate) internships at external institutions and companies is available on the dedicated webpage, along with the documents required of host institutions and companies with reference to the guidelines of the Lombardy Region.

It should be noted that host institutions and companies are responsible for work safety and health protection, as set out in the specific annex to the training project, which must be duly signed and completed by host institutions and companies. The aforementioned guidelines of the Lombardy Region do not apply to compulsory internships for students enrolled in the programmes of the Departments connected to the Faculty of Medicine, at affiliated hospitals.

Internships undertaken abroad through the COSP are allowed in "remote working" mode. They may take place in person in strict compliance with Covid and work safety regulations in force in the destination countries, as well as with the protocols in place at the host institution/company. In the case of activities in person, interns will also be required to sign a specific release form.

**For the performance of in-person activities, a "green pass base" will be required until 30 April, after which no certificate will be required.**



## **Art. 17 - International Mobility**

International incoming and outgoing faculty and student mobility, as well as technical, administrative, or library staff mobility, is allowed to the extent permitted by national law.

For detailed information, please visit the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at: <https://www.viaggiare Sicuri.it/approfondimenti-insights/saluteinviaggio>

## **Art. 18 – Library Services**

The use of library services and all the other University services is unrestricted, subject to the requirement, **until 30 April**, to hold a "green pass base" and to comply with safety and social-distancing rules.

In compliance with the latest regulatory provisions, until 30 April library users are required to wear protective masks (preferably FFP2) to access all services and attend consultation rooms.

Consultation rooms may be used at full capacity, as per current provisions, in compliance with safety requirements.

For details on how to use the services, please refer to the University Library Service portal: <https://www.sba.unimi.it/>

## **Art. 19 – Study Room Attendance**

**Until 30 April**, access to study rooms will be allowed only to students holding a "green pass base" and wearing protective masks.

It is recommended to wear FFP2 type masks.

**From 1 May 2022, access to study rooms will be unrestricted.**

All study rooms will be manned by University staff, who will check compliance with the certificate requirement and the Safety Protocol, as well as managing sanitation procedures.

## **Art. 20 - Student Work**

Student work is allowed, in compliance with the Safety Protocol approved by the University, provided that these activities do not replace staff work, as defined by law. **Until 30 April, a "green pass base" will be required for student work.**

The managers of services where the students work may authorize remote working, where the activities may be supervised and are deemed non-deferrable.

## **Art. 21 – Other Operational Provisions: Classroom Allocation, Schedule Changes, Sanitation Services**

Given the current logistical and scheduling challenges, classrooms will be allocated by the Academic Logistical Services Sector - Central Area and Città Studi (formerly "Caslod").

Therefore, the Degree Programmes will not be permitted to allocate classrooms independently.

Moreover, any change requests must be submitted by the designated Academic Office overseeing scheduling, rather than by individual instructors.

**Sanitation services will be provided in all classrooms, as often as now, until 31 March. After that date sanitation will take place according to ordinary protocols.**



Until 30 April, masks, preferably FFP2 ones, shall be worn in all classrooms and all interior spaces on University grounds.

Any classroom which does not currently have a lecture-streaming option will have the proper supports installed to permit streaming.

## **Art. 22 - University Halls of Residence and Cafeterias**

Starting from 1 April 2022, no green pass will be required to access **residential services**, as for hotel services.

Hygiene and safety measures in halls of residence will therefore be adjusted to the new normal by means of a specific circular.

However, a "green pass base" will be required for accessing **cafeterias**, until 30 April. Thereafter, access will be unrestricted. For outdoor restaurant services, no certificate is required as of 1 April.

## **Art. 23 - Conferences and Events**

Until 30 April, a "super green pass" will be required for participating in conferences, conventions and events.

**Thereafter, access will be unrestricted.**

## **Art. 24 – Competitive State Exams and Training Courses**

Until 30 April, a "green pass base" will be required for participating in competitive State exams and training courses.

**Thereafter, access will be unrestricted.**

## **Art. 25 – General Recommendations**

While acknowledging and transposing law provisions decreeing the end of the emergency period, we recommend that all staff, students and external users continue to adopt prudential and precautionary behaviour, since Covid-19 has not yet been eradicated.

The use of protective masks indoors and social distancing are therefore still recommended even beyond the mandatory deadline of 30 April 2022.

## **Art. 26 – Validity**

All the provisions of this decree shall be immediately valid and effective as of 1 April 2022.

This is subject to any contrary provisions and/or any new national and/or regional legislative provisions, which may require different guidelines and/or deadlines.



**Art. 27 - Final Provisions**

Pursuant to the law, any fraud or abuse in relation to the requirement to be vaccinated and/or to hold or show a Covid-19 certificate shall be reported to the competent Authorities, and the appropriate measures shall be taken.

Milan, 29 March 2022

The Rector

Elio Franzini