

Guidelines for welcoming international students to UMONS for their academic or professional mobility placement during the year 2020-2021 academic year




Dear student,

Within the framework of the Erasmus+ programme and/or an institutional exchange agreement, you have been selected to carry out a professional or academic mobility placement at UMONS during the 2020-2021 academic year. We look forward to welcoming you very soon.

In order for your stay to take place in the best possible conditions, we ask you to carefully read the following information regarding the health situation in Mons and in Belgium, as well as the resulting instructions and recommendations.

BEFORE your arrival in Belgium

1. Please consult the instructions and recommendations of the national authorities of your country of origin concerning authorisation to travel to Belgium.
2. Please also take note of the sanitary provisions in force in Belgium via the following links:
<https://diplomatie.belgium.be/fr> (under the “Vous revenez de” section)
<https://www.info-coronavirus.be/fr/>
3. In the 14 days preceding your trip, as well as during your trip, please take the necessary precautions in order to limit your risk of developing Covid before and upon your arrival in Belgium.
4. **48 hours before your arrival in Belgium**, you must complete the national “Public Health Passenger Locator Form”, which you can access via the following link:
<https://travel.info-coronavirus.be/fr/public-health-passenger-locator-form>
5. **Depending on your country and region of origin, three scenarios** with specific instructions have been drawn up by the national authorities of Belgium:

 QUARANTINE	Quarantine for 14 days + mandatory screening upon arrival in Belgium
	Recommended quarantine for 14 days + screening upon arrival in Belgium
	Free access to Belgian territory and compliance with the health instructions in force in the country: https://www.info-coronavirus.be/fr/

The list of countries and regions associated with the different scenarios is evolving. Please ensure that you are aware of the current information by regularly consulting the official website (<https://diplomatie.belgium.be/fr>) in order to determine your situation before departure.

If you meet the criteria of the first scenario (14-day quarantine and mandatory screening on arrival in Belgium), you will need to make an appointment with a general practitioner upon arrival so that you can be prescribed the compulsory screening test.

The International Relations Office is available to assist you with these procedures and to answer your questions.

DURING your stay at UMONS

Pursuant to the decisions of the National Security Council of 20th August 2020, and the measures implemented by the Minister of Higher Education, a “colour code” system has been put in place for Belgian universities for the 2020-2021 academic year, taking into account the possible evolution of the epidemiological situation.

There are 4 colours:

Zero risk - GREEN

A vaccine is available and/or there is herd immunity. Normal physical contact between people can take place. Washing hands (before eating and after going to the toilet) is still necessary.

Low risk - YELLOW

There is limited transmission of the virus, so increased vigilance is recommended. Contact between potential carriers is to be limited. Necessary contact, for practical reasons, may continue, subject to applicable security measures.

Moderate risk - ORANGE

There is systematic transmission of the virus in society. There are isolated outbreaks. Contact between potential carriers is to be limited to what is strictly necessary and must take place in a context where risk factors are under control as much as possible.

High risk - RED

There are widespread infections in society and new outbreaks of contamination. Contact between potential carriers should be avoided as much as possible.

The start of the academic year at UMONS will take place under **code YELLOW** as of 1st September 2020, subject to the evolution of the health situation. If this changes to another colour, we will be sure to inform you of this and send you the new instructions to follow.

What are the instructions in force under **code YELLOW**?

General measures:

- Hand hygiene (wash your hands regularly and disinfect your hand with a hydroalcoholic gel)
- Wearing a mask is compulsory on all UMONS campuses and in all UMONS buildings (except when eating and drinking)
- Wearing a visor is authorised for medical reasons or in certain cases (visors provided by the University).

Room occupancy at UMONS:

- The buildings are open and accessible to students, in compliance with the recommended hygiene rules, and with the maximum number of students present on-site simultaneously limited to 75%
- Class groups of up to 50 people: wearing a mask is compulsory and a physical distance of at least 1m between individuals must be respected
- Class groups of more than 51 people: wearing a mask is compulsory and a physical distance of at least 1m between individuals must be respected and/or occupancy of every other seat
- Laboratories / practical workshop rooms: wearing a mask is compulsory, as well as disinfection of equipment after each use
- Libraries, media rooms and computer rooms: wearing a mask is compulsory, as well as disinfection of equipment after each use, and a physical distance of at least 1m between individuals must be respected.

Flow of people: the signs in place must be respected and wearing a mask is compulsory.

Teaching activities with practical aspects (sports, arts, medicine, etc.): face-to-face, with some remote activities.

Ventilation, cleaning and disinfection: all rooms should ideally be ventilated every 1.5 hours and the duration of the teaching or assessment activity is limited to 3 hours. The rooms are cleaned and disinfected at least once a day. Users are asked to disinfect the equipment and surfaces used before leaving.

Catering: the university restaurants are open, wearing a mask is compulsory before and after eating, a physical distance of 1.5m between individuals must be respected and eating outdoors is encouraged.

University housing: If you have to quarantine for 14 days and you are staying in halls of residence, you should inform the Housing Office as soon as possible (cites@umons.ac.be or +3265373721). You will then receive specific instructions and assistance.

Student life: large student gatherings should be avoided, and barrier gestures should be respected (wearing a mask and physical distancing).

In case of illness: people who are ill and/or possibly carriers of Covid-19 must stay at home and contact a general practitioner.

If the doctor thinks there is a risk of contamination, they will order a test.

If the doctor thinks that contamination is highly likely, they will immediately notify the Covid-19 contact centre (<https://www.info-coronavirus.be/fr/suividescontacts/#sympt%C3%B4mes>) and contact tracing will begin.

If the doctor thinks contamination is possible, they will wait for the test result before notifying the Covid-19 contact centre. The contact centre will then contact the carrier of Covid-19.

Assistance during your stay at UMONS

The International Relations Office is there to help you. Please feel free to contact them with any questions you may have.

For the Faculty of Translation and Interpretation: sarah.graindorge@umons.ac.be

For the Warocqué School of Business and Economics and the Faculty of Psychology and Education: leonora.fusella@umons.ac.be

For all other Faculties/Schools: marine.vecchiato@umons.ac.be

For any questions relating to your studies (course programme, teaching methods, etc.) during your stay at UMONS, please contact the faculty coordinators whose details you can find [here](#).

We sincerely hope that your stay at UMONS will take place under the best possible conditions, and we remain available to assist you as best as we can.

We look forward to welcoming you to the University of Mons!

Kind regards,

The Rector, the Vice-Rector for International Relations and Mobility, the International Mobility Advisor, and the International Relations Office.