

July 12, 2021

To all students,

Notice: Novel Coronavirus Prevention Measures

Kyoto Prefecture's strengthened COVID-19 prevention measures were lifted on July 11. However, there is a concern that the virus may again spread rapidly with the emergence of new strains, such as the Delta variant. The number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection in the Kanto region (which includes the Tokyo metropolitan area) has been increasing. It is reported that people in their 20s and younger now account for 48.6% of all COVID-19 patients in Japan. Students are requested to take all possible measures, including the precautions listed below, to protect their own health and prevent the spread of the virus to themselves and others.

If you feel unwell, please consult with a local public health center. If you are confirmed to have been infected with the novel coronavirus, to have had close contact with an infected person, or if a family member or person cohabiting with you is confirmed to have had close contact with an infected person, please report the situation to your faculty or department of affiliation immediately.

The impact of the novel coronavirus is not limited to its devastating impact as a physical disease; it is also having a serious impact on people's mental health. The Counselling Office of the university's General Student Support Center and departmental consultation services are providing counseling services for students. Please contact them by phone or via email if you have any problems or concerns.

Takashi Muranaka

Executive Vice-President for Student Affairs

*Please note that the level of activity restriction at Kyoto University is being maintained at the current level: Level 1 (as specified in the university's "Guidelines for the Restriction of Activities to Prevent the Spread of the Novel Coronavirus").

*Please note that the underlined parts below have been updated since the June 21 announcement titled "Notice: Novel Coronavirus Prevention Measures."

All students are requested to take the following precautions:

- Most infections are caused by transmission of the virus via airborne droplets. As viruses mainly enter through nose and mouth, be sure to wear a face mask that fits snugly and completely covers your nose and mouth.

- Take the essential COVID-19 prevention measures: wash hands frequently, practice social distancing, and avoid the “3Cs” of closed spaces, crowded places, and close contact.
- Refrain from talking without a face mask, including during meals.
- Avoid non-essential travel to all other prefectures as much as possible (including travel to return to your family home).
- Avoid non-essential travel to the extent possible, particularly to areas subject to the state of emergency or strengthened COVID-19 prevention measures, or to areas in which the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 infection is increasing.
- Refrain from going outside for nonessential reasons, including during the daytime.
- Avoid crowded places/times.
- If commuting to the university using public transport, be sure to wear a face mask correctly, and refrain from talking while on board.
- Refrain from gathering over food and drink with more than four people, walking around or doing things in large groups before and after classes (when attending face-to-face classes at the university, etc.), or attending extracurricular activities.
- Refrain from using facilities with a high risk of infection, such as restaurants and karaoke bars that do not take appropriate virus prevention measures.
- Refrain from gathering over food and drink with a large number of people for a prolonged period of time (including home parties with persons other than family members)
- Refrain from occupying restaurants after the shortened business hours specified in the current virus prevention measures.
- Refrain from using restaurants that do not comply with requests to close or shorten their business hours.
- Refrain from drinking in groups in streets or in parks, and similar activities that may cause the spread of the novel coronavirus.
- Refrain from drinking or staying overnight at a friend’s apartment, etc.
- Avoid the “Five Situations” that increase the risk of infection: (1) Social gatherings involving drinking, (2) Eating and drinking with a large number of people for prolonged period of time, (3) Conversations without wearing a mask, (4) Living together in a small space, and (5) Frequently moving to different locations.
- Even if you have received a COVID-19 vaccination, continue to take essential virus-prevention measures, including wearing a face mask, washing hands, and cleansing hands with a hand sanitizer.

Reference Materials:

- Kyoto Prefecture: “Measures to Control the Reemergence of COVID-19 in Kyoto (issued on July 8, 2021)”
https://www.pref.kyoto.jp/kikikanri/news/corona_210708taiou.html (in Japanese)
- Kyoto University’s Response to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19)
<https://www.kyoto-u.ac.jp/en/about/safety/coronavirus>

- Request to refrain from extracurricular activities (Ver. 8) (in Japanese)
<https://www-app.pr.kyoto-u.ac.jp/sites/default/files/inline-files/kagai-jishuku-210621-8c677300f5f9a87447e9eda181d01ecc.pdf>
- Manual for Preventive Measures when Holding Extracurricular Activities (Ver. 8) (in Japanese)
<https://www-app.pr.kyoto-u.ac.jp/sites/default/files/inline-files/yobou-manual-210621-b9095fffc6a297b69cce9f0be696c72c.pdf>
- Counselling Office of the Kyoto University General Student Support Center
<https://www.gssc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/counsel/english.html>
- Departmental consultation services (the website of the Kyoto University General Student Support Center)
<https://www.gssc.kyoto-u.ac.jp/counsel/additional.html> (in Japanese)

- COVID-19 Information and Resources (Cabinet Secretariat website)
<https://corona.go.jp/en/>

- Covid-19 Contact-Confirming Application (COCOA) (the website of the Ministry of Health, Labour and Welfare)
https://www.mhlw.go.jp/stf/seisakunitsuite/bunya/cocoa_00138.html (in Japanese)

- Kyoto Prefecture Website: Information on the novel coronavirus infection
<https://www.pref.kyoto.jp/kentai/news/novelcoronavirus.html> (in Japanese)
- Kyoto Prefecture Website: Medical consultation, services, and tests for the novel coronavirus
<https://www.pref.kyoto.jp/kentai/corona/soudan.html> (in Japanese)

- Kyoto Prefecture/City: “Follow “Kyoto Manners” when eating and drinking at restaurants.”
https://www.pref.kyoto.jp/kikikanri/documents/kyoto_manners_a4chirashi_kyotoshi.pdf (in Japanese)

- Kyoto Prefecture: “Youtube videos to raise student awareness of the new lifestyle”
<https://www.pref.kyoto.jp/fu-daigaku/news/2020animation.html> (in Japanese)