

13.03.2020

Decisions Taken To Prevent The Spread Of The New Coronavirus (COVID-19)

The new Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic and its prevention had been addressed in 52 numbered and 12.03.2020 dated University Executive Board meeting and discussed with the Council of Higher Education (CoHE). Precautionary decisions taken in this regard are listed below:

1. By the decision of Council of Higher Education, our University will be suspended for 3 weeks as of 16 March 2020. In this regard;
 - All health programs including medicine program, science and engineering programs, traineeships, internships, and practical trainings are suspended.
 - All postgraduate students except medicine students who are under speciality training are covered by this decision.
2. Interns of Cerrahpaşa Faculty of Medicine may offer health care services if they volunteer and if the Dean's Office deems appropriate under necessary conditions.
3. Except for the Rector, Vice-Rectors, Deans, Directors of Vocational Schools and Institutes, academic or administrative staff who are over 60 years old, disabled, pregnant or who have a chronic disease will be considered on administrative leave.
4. Abroad leaves of the academic and administrative staff, including the pre-scheduled leaves, are canceled until further notice.
5. Including the pre-scheduled ones and the ones within the knowledge and approval of the university, students' abroad leaves for educational and training activities, academic exchange programs, social activities, cultural trips, sports activities, and competitions are canceled until further notice.
6. If they leave for abroad, all students (Turkish citizen and international) might face problems depending on the condition of the pandemic, might have flight blocks, might not continue with their education for 14 days, and might have other problems when returning. Students are strongly advised to not to leave abroad because of these possibilities.

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7. According to the instructions of the Ministry of Health, all academic and administrative staff who returned from abroad within the last 14 days or who are still abroad will be considered on administrative leave for 14 days starting from the date of return. They will stay away from education and training areas and spend this period in their homes. After the end of the 3 weeks suspension, students will also be subject to this practice and won't be considered absent for 14 days.

8. All calls for foreign language studies abroad, Erasmus, Mevlana and project-based Mevlana mobility programs for students and academic staff are canceled. Acceptance of upcoming students and academicians within Erasmus and Mevlana mobility programs are suspended until further notice.

New international applications made directly or referred through the Rectorate for trainee, researcher, observer or other similar statuses will not be accepted. Due to the new Coronavirus (COVID-19) risk, individuals who hold one of these statuses and who returned from abroad within the last 14 days will be considered on administrative leave for 14 days starting from the date of return according to the instructions of the Ministry of Health. They will stay away from education and training areas, spend this period in their homes and won't be considered absent.

9. All trips for activities that will take place out of the city such as sports competitions, technical visits, group activities of student clubs and school trips are canceled.

10. All meetings that will take place within our university and will have participants or speakers from out of town are canceled.

11. Utmost attention will be paid to ensure that fear and anxiety about the new Coronavirus (COVID-19) risk do not cause panic, that people from a certain community or nation are not considered as the source and carrier of the disease, and that international students and academics, especially students and academics who recently returned from abroad, do not face discrimination.

12. University units will be provided with the necessary information about hygiene education and precautions in this regard will be taken. Additional measures taken particularly by the Council of Higher Education and other related superior institutions will be implemented exactly, and for the efficient and dynamic execution of procedures, academic and administrative staff, and students will be informed periodically.

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