



DURBAN UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY
INVUVESI YASETHEKWINI YEZOBUCHWEPHESHE

UNIVERSITY STATEMENT

13 July 2020

Dear staff and students

UPDATE: INCREASE IN CASES OF COVID-19

Following our previous statement to you on Friday afternoon, we regret to report that there are four new confirmed cases of COVID-19 in the DUT community. Over the weekend, three students and one staff member tested positive for the coronavirus. The four new confirmed cases are all based in Durban. We pray for their safe return to good health.

Contact tracing for the new cases has already commenced and the affected physical spaces will be disinfected, in compliance with the response guidelines.

In total, 26 people at DUT have now tested positive for COVID-19. This includes 14 staff members and 12 students.

There is a suspected case at the Indumiso Campus in Pietermaritzburg. A staff member displayed symptoms of COVID-19, after a member of their family had tested positive for the coronavirus. As a result, the library at the Indumiso Campus will be closed for disinfection.

Once the area has been sanitized, the library will then reopen. The staff member is in self-isolation, pending the release of their COVID-19 test result.

The DUT COVID-19 Response Task Team reminds students and staff to please adopt all of the published precautions, to help limit and to prevent the spread of the COVID-19.

This includes:

- Wear a face mask whenever you leave your place of residence.
- Practice physical and social distancing, stay a minimum of six feet apart from other people.
- Do not gather in groups.

- Wash your hands regularly, using water and soap for a minimum of 20 seconds.
- Disinfect frequently touched surface areas.

All staff and students are reminded to use the HealthCheck online screening form **before** they enter campus. <https://healthcheck.higherhealth.ac.za/>

For those who cannot use the HealthCheck online form, manual screening is taking place at all campus entrances. The manual screening does take time, so please be prepared for delays.

We also remind all students and staff that the use of a face mask is compulsory at all times, whilst you are on campus or in residence.

Our University has a dedicated email address for all COVID-19 related enquiries. You can email your questions and comments to: covid-enquiries@dut.ac.za

A COVID-19 telephone hotline service is in place at DUT. The hotline will be staffed during office hours, Monday to Friday. The telephone number is: 031 373 3760.

After hours and on weekends, staff and students may contact 0600 123 456 (via What's App); or the National Institute of Communicable Diseases (NICD) Hotline on 0800 029 999; or telephone the National COVID-19 Call Centre on 012 337 1997.

Please stay safe and follow the advice to wear a mask, wash your hands, sanitize frequently touched surface areas and importantly, to observe social and physical distancing.

Sincerely

DUT COVID-19 Response Task Team