Dear All,

Rector’s Decree no.6 (6/1/22) has now been uploaded to the Politecnico website. This includes “*Urgent measures to combat the current health emergency*”, adopted following a meeting of the Politecnico Technical Panel on 5/1/2022 which discussed applying and monitoring measures to combat SARS-Cov-2. Participants included Workplace Health & Safety representatives, Health Service Executives and student representatives for the Academic Senate and Board of Directors.

In view of the ongoing health emergency, all previously adopted prevention measures have been reconfirmed, including the following; a requirement to possess and display a Green Pass in order to access places of work/study, applicable to all students and those entering Politecnico di Bari buildings; compulsory use of protective masks, also in open spaces; adoption of social distancing of minimum 1 metre.

Moreover, the decree stipulates that:

* until 31/1/2022 it is possible for managerial staff and technical, administrative and library personnel to work from home in cases where a family member is confirmed as having tested positive for *SARS-Cov-2*, for the verified period of infection.

To this end, appropriate regulations are currently being defined, prior to union representative consultation, which will allow for standardized guidelines on working from home. These will be in line with those approved on 15/12/2021 by the Joint Conference as well as further information outlined in the memo issued on 5/1/2022 by the Ministry for Employment & Social Policy and Public Administration;

* exams may be carried out online using the Microsoft Teams platform, on the understanding that teaching staff may also carry out blended exams (both online and in the classroom);
* in cases where teaching staff opt for blended exams, only vulnerable students, international students and those who are in quarantine or isolating may take the exam online;
* the capacity of Politecnico buildings for teaching and curricular purposes (including study rooms, libraries and the Student Centre) will be reduced to 50% of the maximum allowed capacity;
* all lectures for degree courses in Engineering will be carried out online;
* for other degree courses, there will be the opportunity to decide whether to adopt exclusively online teaching or a blended format (both in classrooms and online using the Microsoft Teams platform);
* the personal space for each individual operating within laboratories is established as 5 square metres.

The decree also reconfirms the current track and trace system for students in Politecnico buildings (classrooms, libraries and the Student Centre) using the specific Politecnico application which registers student presence on campus through QR Code readers at all entrance points. Monitoring of Green Pass status for students and staff will be reinforced and checks will continue on the registration of student presence on campus through QR Code readers outside classrooms, libraries and study rooms.

The complete decree document (in Italian) can be consulted at the following link: [http://www.poliba.it/sites/default/files/dr\_emergenza\_sanitaria\_6\_gennaio\_2022-signed.pdf](https://eur03.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.poliba.it%2Fsites%2Fdefault%2Ffiles%2Fdr_emergenza_sanitaria_6_gennaio_2022-signed.pdf&data=04%7C01%7Cmartin.baxter%40poliba.it%7Cd7098cea79e5404ae7b308d9d1b5206a%7C5b406aaba1f14f13a7aadd573da3d332%7C0%7C0%7C637771398120321716%7CUnknown%7CTWFpbGZsb3d8eyJWIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoiV2luMzIiLCJBTiI6Ik1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D%7C3000&sdata=fRVEP5CmU23%2F1QDbQ1PCmEKKrdP%2FxDjlVW4FxO%2FMZQI%3D&reserved=0) .

We will continue to monitor any developments and further regulations at this time, in particular those of the Council of Ministers, in order to adapt the decree measures to new requirements where this is necessary.

Cordial greetings to you all.

Francesco Cupertino

Rector, Politecnico di Bari