

BACK TO CAMPUS UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

#SaveLives
#SaveTheAcademicYear

LEVEL

4

(as of 1 May 2020)

WHAT TO DO

- Controlled return of final year students in programmes requiring clinical training, starting with medicine (MChB) and the phasing-in of all other programmes, including Nursing, Dental and Veterinary Sciences.
- Medical students have been returning to clinical training platforms from 11 May 2020.
- Other final students in other programmes requiring clinical training will begin returning from 1 June 2020.
- All other students are supported through remote multimodal teaching, learning and assessments until they can return to campus.

LEVEL

3

WHAT TO DO

- A maximum of 33% of the student population will be allowed to return to campuses, delivery sites and residences on condition that they can be safely accommodated and supported in line with the health and safety protocols as directed by the DHET. This will include the following cohorts:
 - All groups that have already returned during Level 4;
 - Students in the final year of their programmes, who are on a path to graduating in 2020;
 - Final year students who require access to labs, technical equipment, data, connectivity and access to residence and private accommodation;
 - Students, in all years of study, who require clinical training in their programmes (provided that the clinical training platforms have sufficient space and can accommodate them while adhering to the safety protocols); and
 - Post Graduate students who require lab equipment and other technical equipment to undertake their studies.

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LEVEL

3

(continued)

WHAT TO DO

Institutions may also consider the selected return of other categories of students to residences who may face extreme difficulties in their home learning environments, provided that the above categories are prioritised, and all safety and logistical requirements are met.

When a district moves to Level 3 of the strategy, then the reintegration of the next group of students to return to campuses located in that district will take place. So, if in a particular district Level 3 is announced to begin on 1 June 2020, then institutions where campuses are located in that district will recall students, in line with the following criteria, to start their contact tuition from 15 June 2020.

Should Level 3 be announced to begin on 15 June 2020, then students would be recalled to start on 29 June 2020. In other words a period of two weeks will be given to allow students to travel back to their campuses and institutions to ensure that the campuses are effectively prepared for the return.

Minister Blade Nzimande will publish Directions in terms of the Disaster Management Act to permit such travel. Institutions will issue permits to identified students to allow for their travel.

All other students will be supported through remote multimodal teaching learning and assessments until they can return to campus. Some institutions may identify other groups of students in line with their particular contexts. However, any deviation from this criteria must be approved by the DHET and must fall within the maximum of 33% of the student population.

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LEVEL 2

WHAT TO DO

When a district moves to Level 2 of the strategy, then the reintegration of the next group of students to return to contact tuition on campuses located in that district will take place according to the following criteria. Once again, a two week period will be given to allow students to travel back to their campuses and for institutions to ensure that the campuses are effectively prepared for the reintegration.

A maximum of 66% of the student population will return to campus for teaching, learning and assessments in line with the following criteria:

- All groups that have already returned;
- Students in all years of study who require lab and technical equipment to complete the academic year;
- Students in all years of study who require practical placements/ experiential learning/ work place-based learning to complete the academic year (provided the workplaces and platforms are open and prepared); and
- First year students in all undergraduate programmes.

Institutions may also consider the selected return of other categories of students to residences who may face extreme difficulties in their home learning environments provided that the above categories are prioritised, and all safety and logistical requirements are met. All other students will be supported through remote multimodal teaching learning and assessments until they can return to campus.

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LEVEL 1

WHAT TO DO



When Level 1 is announced, a two week period will be given in order for students to travel back to their campuses and for institutions to ensure that the campuses are effectively prepared for the reintegration.

Under Level 1, it is expected that 100% of the student population should return to campus. The DHET will require the strictest enforcement of physical distancing and health protocols. Minister Nzimande will publish the criteria for the risk adjusted strategy for the return of students as outlined in the Government Gazette.



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WHAT TO DO



RETURN TO RESIDENCES:



Within the national guidelines to be published by the Department, plans for the return of students to residences will be determined at institutional level, in line with numbers that can be accommodated to enable physical distancing, the handling of communal spaces, hygiene requirements and dining hall arrangements.

Students identified to reintegrate into campuses may include specific groups of students that are living with disabilities, who are not able to access connectivity where they live, or are living in circumstances where studying is difficult. In terms of the phase-in plans, the maximum % per residence identified for the level (Level 3 - 33%; Level 2 - 66%) must be adhered to and all health and safety protocols must be in place. Students who live in private rented accommodation close to campuses may also return provided physical distancing arrangements are in place.

BACK TO CAMPUS TVET COLLEGE STUDENTS

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PLAN

WHAT TO DO

A tentative academic calendar has been drawn up pending any new announcements on the different levels of the lockdown by the President:

NATED Trimester (ENGINEERING) students

N6 & N3: 10 June 2020

N5 & N2: 15 June 2020

N4 & N1: 22 June 2020

NATED Semester (BUSINESS STUDIES) students

N6: 25 June 2020

N5: 29 June 2020

N4: 06 July 2020

NC(V) STUDENTS

Level 4: 13 July 2020

Level 3: 20 July 2020

Level 2: 27 July 2020

A campus-based approach will be applied where colleges are affected by different lockdown levels. Campuses located in districts that remain in Level 4 will remain closed and students will be supported using multi-modal remote learning approaches. Each of these colleges will therefore develop a detailed remote learning support plan and share it with students as well as post it on the college website.

Several colleges have already developed learning materials both for TV and radio broadcasts which are shared on www.dhet.gov.za. These initiatives will continue beyond the return of students to campuses. Students who will not have returned to campuses in June and July will also be supported remotely until they return to campus according to the phase-in process.

Colleges are using textbooks, e-Guides, past question papers, and uploaded YouTube videos to assist students. These are supported through bulk text messages from colleges and WhatsApp groups set up by lecturers.

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COMMUNITY EDUCATION & TRAINING STUDENTS

PLAN

WHAT TO DO

The CET college system is severely constrained in respect of infrastructure and uses mainly school infrastructure afterhours. Academic programmes must therefore align to those of the Department of Basic Education. Guided by the principle to save lives and the academic year, CET colleges will spend the rest of May 2020 preparing the central offices and the learning centres to be ready for the safe return of staff and students.

Subject to readiness of the colleges and centres, the following are the dates for the return of different categories of staff to their workstations:

- 25 May 2020: Principals, Deputy Principals and Supply Chain Management staff,
- 1 June 2020: Centre managers,
- 8 June 2020: All Lecturers,
- 17 June 2020 for students registered for General Education Training Certificate, Senior Certificate as well National Occupational Certificates qualifications or part-qualifications.
- The return of students for AET Levels 1 to 3 will be synchronised with the return of learners in the lower grades in public schools.

In the unfortunate event that some learning sites are located in districts and metros that remain on Level 4, such learning sites shall be closed or remain closed. The affected students registered for General Education and Training Certificate, Senior Certificate, or National Occupational Certificate exams shall only get an opportunity to sit for them in May or June 2021 to enable them to complete the 2020 academic year.

Read Minister Blade Nzimande's full statement on www.dhet.gov.za