

# Directive Setting out the Conditions Underpinning EPFL's COVID-19 Protection Plan

## Contents

---

1.	Introduction	2
2.	Scope of application	2
3.	Main objectives of EPFL's protection plan	2
4.	Main measures, scenarios	2
5.	Compliance with health and safety measures	3
6.	Reassessing these measures	3

---

## 1. Introduction

This Directive responds to EPFL’s obligation to create a protection plan in accordance with the Swiss federal government’s Ordinance on Measures during the Special Situation to combat the COVID-19 Epidemic.

The goal of this Directive is to set forth the guidelines for the “new normal” on campus. Unfortunately, the public-health situation remains a major concern. These measures are designed to guide students and employees in their day-to-day activities and to prevent the coronavirus from spreading, as that could lead to new, more restrictive measures.

All the guidelines we’ve issued, measures we’ve taken and efforts we’ve asked of people are in keeping with this goal, and we appreciate your cooperation.

---

## 2. Scope of application

All EPFL staff members, students, and guests, as well as non-EPFL people and visitors, must comply with this Directive and with the framework measures set out at the federal level and in the canton in which they work. It applies across the board at EPFL.

---

## 3. Main objectives of EPFL’s protection plan

**The Directive is designed to achieve the following objectives:**

- Safeguard EPFL students and staff members by spelling out the health and safety requirements that must be followed.
- Enable EPFL’s protection plan to be implemented in a decentralized manner by unit and laboratory heads.
- Maintain ties among all members of the EPFL community.
- Achieve the best possible balance between in-person activities, remote working and compliance with health and safety measures.

---

## 4. Main measures, scenarios

The guidelines set out under the protection plan correspond to specific pandemic scenarios.

**EPFL has outlined four core scenarios:**

State of the pandemic	EPFL scenario	Description	On-campus presence
No special situation	Normal operations	No special measures	No special restrictions
State of the pandemic: moderate	Continuity Plan - Level I	Remote working recommended; in-person classes and practicals possible; events and travel subject to restrictions	Subject to conditions
State of the pandemic: serious	Continuity Plan - Level II	Remote working mandatory; classes online; in-person practicals possible; events and travel subject to restrictions	Authorization required
State of the pandemic: critical	Continuity Plan - Level III	Classes and practicals online; remote working unless on-site working authorized; no events; no travel	Only if authorized by upper management

For more details, please refer to the directives applicable to the scenario in effect. Those directives, and the explanatory appendices mentioned below, are integral parts of this Directive.

EPFL's upper management is responsible for deciding which pandemic scenario applies at any given time. Any additional cantonal and federal measures must also be followed.

---

## 5. **Compliance with health and safety measures**

In order to protect our community, everyone must comply with the health and safety measures. EPFL reserves the right to take disciplinary action against anyone who does not comply with them. Depending on the severity of the violation, these actions may range from a warning to a disciplinary investigation, or the violation may even be reported to the authorities for criminal prosecution.

---

## 6. **Reassessing these measures**

The measures set out in this Directive may be reassessed or amended at any time up to 4 June 2021, depending on how the pandemic evolves. ■

### Appendices:

Directives applicable to the scenario in effect

Appendix 1. Health and safety guidelines

Appendix 2. Special measures for non-EPFL people coming to campus