

April 10, 2020

To Students of the School of Science,  
Request for Restriction of Activities to Prevent New Coronavirus Infection

Masahiro Terada  
Dean  
Faculty/Graduate School of Science

This request is addressed to second- to fourth-year students of the Faculty of Science, graduate students and research students of the Graduate School of Science. If you do not fall into the mentioned categories, please follow the instructions of your academic advisor and/or the department chair or dean.

Since cases of COVID-19 infection have been reported every day, Tohoku University has taken various measures to protect students and faculty members from infection. However, unfortunately, some of our students have contracted COVID-19, and thus, a considerable number of students and faculty members have been affected. Since the situation continues to be unpredictable, the School of Science is considering the situation to be critical and has decided to take the additional measures, listed below, to prevent further spread of the infection. In order to protect your own health as well as the health of your friends and family, we strongly urge you to take measures to avoid contracting the virus nor be in close contact with others to slow the spread. We hope you will understand that the instructions are to enable you to return to your normal and fulfilling academic and research life as soon as possible.

1. In principle, students' visit to the university campus is banned until Wednesday, May 6, and laboratory activities are significantly restricted. During the period, students are supposed to work at home (\*), check body temperature and work to maintain their health. At the same time, students must avoid so called "3C", that is, closed spaces with poor ventilation, crowded places with many people nearby, and close-contact settings, such as close-range conversations. Since these precautions aim to decrease the occasions for students to be in contact with people, social activities, such as visiting live houses, sports gyms, restaurants in the downtown area where customers are closely attended etc., are prohibited. In addition, having meals and conversations with friends at home, engaging in part-time jobs involving close-contact services for customers are not allowed. Avoiding contact with people helps prevent the spread of infection. Please be aware of the risk that you can be infected with the virus without symptoms and still infect others, increasing the spread of the infection, which could end up causing the collapse of the medical system.

(\*) The term “home” here refers to the dormitories, apartments, etc. where you currently live in Sendai. It is said that the risk is relatively small for activities like shopping for groceries and daily necessities while avoiding contact with people, exercising outdoors, and taking a walk.

2. Please note that we may extend the prohibition of coming to the university campus and the restrictions of laboratory activities depending on the status of the COVID-19 pandemic even after Thursday, May 7, 2020. If this occurs, you will be asked to continue to stay at home until further notice. Please make sure to check the School of Science website and Tohoku University email (DCMail) regularly.

**【School of Science Official Website】**

<https://www.sci.tohoku.ac.jp/news/20200305-10978.html>

\*The latest relevant requests on the COVID-19 prevention for students are on Tohoku University Official Website as well.

**【Tohoku University Official Website】**

<https://www.tohoku.ac.jp/japanese/disaster/outbreak/01/outbreak0101/>

3. Please acknowledge that this preventive measure does not prohibit full scale laboratory activities. It is rather a request showing our utmost commitment against the COVID-19 spread on campus. If you are unable to obey the request due to the inevitable reasons, we may allow you to do your laboratory activities as long as you take extra precautions to minimize the risk of infections accordingly, so called “3Cs”. To obtain permission for performing laboratory activities, please contact your academic advisor or the department chair and obtain approval from them. Please make sure to stay in touch with your academic advisor for online instructions regularly for completing your graduation thesis.
4. All courses will be conducted online during the first semester. Please be assured that the online courses do not affect earning academic credits, and we would like you to pursue your study at home. Hands-on courses, such as experiment courses, are not going to be held for the time being, and you will be notified the latest status through the website of your department. As for text books, Tohoku University CO-OPs are now preparing the online shopping and please check their website for more information.
5. For new graduate students, the following items will be sent to your laboratory: Student ID card, Tohokudai-ID (for newly enrolled students), and Certificate of Admission. Since Tohokudai-ID is required for the course registration and other relevant procedures, you will be allowed to come to the university campus to receive it. Please remember that you should leave your laboratory immediately after picking up your Tohokudai-ID. If you are not able to come to the laboratory, you need to inform your academic advisor so that we can send it to you by postal mail.
6. If you need to come to the university campus for the job-hunting activities, please contact your academic advisor or the faculty member in charge of career support to obtain their permission in advance.

7. If you feel unwell or are uneasy about your physical condition, you should contact your academic advisor, the Student Support Section, School of Science, and the Student Healthcare Center, Tohoku University. If you call the consultation hotline (Miyagi & Sendai Call Center: 022-211-3883) and have certain instructions, such as behavior observation, from them, make sure to report these instructions to the above-mentioned parties. Moreover, you should report follow-ups of your current condition to the Student Support Section as needed.

sci-sien@grp.tohoku.ac.jp (Student Support Section, School of Science)

infection2020@grp.tohoku.ac.jp (Student Healthcare Center, Tohoku University)

8. For inquiries to the Science administrative offices, please call or send emails to the following appropriate sections:

«Contact Information at School of Science»

■Academic affairs matter for undergraduate students

→ Undergraduate Academic Affairs Section 022-795-6350 sci-kyom@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

■Academic affairs matter for graduate students

→ Graduate Academic Affairs Section 022-795-6351 sci-in@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

■Scholarship Information, Studying Abroad, and Request for certificates

→ Student Support Section 022-795-6403 sci-sien@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

■Academic affairs matter for each department

→ Academic Affairs and Planning Section sci-kkikaku@grp.tohoku.ac.jp

• Physics, Astronomy, and Geophysics: 022-795-6494

• Chemistry: 022-795-4384

• Earth Science: 022-795-6645

■For other contact information, please refer to the School of Science Website

<https://www.sci.tohoku.ac.jp/inquiry/>