Bielefeld University Welcome Centre Newsletter
April 2020

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Welcome Centre Services

Mo-Fri 10:30-11:30  
Service Desk via Skype

To provide as much guidance as possible, we are offering our daily service desk in a new format. You can contact Welcome Centre Bielefeld University on skype and ask all your pressing questions.

Mo-Fri 08:00-15:00  
Individual Consultation via E-Mail and Telephone

As usual, you can of course also write us an e-mail to welcome@uni-bielefeld.de or call any member of our team via telephone.

Career and Scholarships

15th April 2020

The Bielefeld Young Researchers’ Fund is offering a new round of scholarships. They have different opportunities for PhD students and Postdocs, which include career bridges, the entry into third party funding as well as doctorate completion scholarships. You can find the requirements for the several funding lines on their webpage.

Despite the current situation the deadline remains on April 15, so funding will be possible from June onwards. Please also check the webpage for changes in the application procedure.

https://www.uni-bielefeld.de/(en)/nachwuchs/promovierende/stipendien-und-foerderprogramme/nachwuchsfonds.html

Researchers in Danger

Since 2016

The Phillip Schwartz-Initiative supports researchers at risk. You can find out more about the programme and some of its faces here:

Guidance in the Current Situation

If you feel sick and you are not sure whether you should visit a doctor or not, please call one of the following numbers:

- Bielefeld Health department: 0521-51-2000
- Servicedesk of the Association of Statutory Health Insurance Physicians (Kassenärztliche Vereinigung): 116117

They will ask you questions on your sickness and current situation and will let you know about further steps to take.

There are some general guidelines that are set by the city and the state to avoid the spread of Covid19:

1. Generally, you should keep your hygiene standards as high as possible, especially regarding frequent handwashing.
2. Everybody is also asked to avoid unnecessary meetings and travels.
3. In public you must keep distance from other people as much as possible (minimum 1.5m).
4. If you go outside, you are only allowed to be on your own or accompanied by members of your household or family. It is forbidden to gather in groups of more than two people in public.
5. Currently, it is prohibited to make a personal visit to senior residences or hospitals.
6. Generally, shops and restaurants are closed. Only stores offering essentials for daily life (supermarkets, petrol stations, drug stores etc.) are open.

You should also keep yourself updated about the regulations at Bielefeld University and follow the advice given on the webpage.

https://uni-bielefeld.de/themen/coronavirus/

The Town Hall in Bielefeld is currently closed for the general public. If you have an urgent matter, you can reach the Bürgerservice (citizen service) and the Ausländerbehörde (Foreigners’ Office) via e-mail and telephone. You can find the contacts on the webpage of the city.

https://www.bielefeld.de/de/covi/notstadt/

If you need help to get in touch with the authorities, please contact the
Welcome Centre. We will assist you in explaining your case and gathering the required documents.

For further information related to Covid19, you can visit the following webpages:

Robert Koch Institute (English):  
https://www.rki.de/EN/Home/homepage_node.html

European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control (English):  

World Health Organization (English):  
https://www.who.int/

Federal Ministry of Health (English):  

Hygiene Tips in several languages:  

City of Bielefeld (German):  
https://www.bielefeld.de/de/gs/covi/

Work related questions  

Tips for staying at home (German):  
Culture and Leisure Time

During respective opening hours

The city of Bielefeld is providing a list of businesses that offer delivery services for the coming weeks.
https://www.nw.de/lokal/bielefeld/mitte/22735220_Bihaeltzusammen-Liste-mit-Geschaeften-online.html

Any time

At the moment you can virtually visit the Vatican museums without waiting in line for hours.
www.museivaticani.va

Following the online schedule

The Hochschulsport (university sport) online programme has launched. There are many classes you can now take online. You should check their Facebook Page for the weekly schedules.

https://www.facebook.com/HSPBielefeld/?hc_location=group