

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PROGRAMS IN ITALY

Rome, January 2, 2023

RE: CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY IN ITALY #68: NEW ITALIAN RULES FOR COVID-19 POSITIVE PERSONS AND CLOSE CONTACTS

The Italian Government and Parliament have issued new regulations (Law Decree n. 162/2022, converted into Law n. 199/2022, as published on the *Official Gazette* n. 304 of December 30, 2022), with regard to Covid-19 positive persons, as well as for close contacts; these are effective from December 31, 2022, until further notice and can be summarized as follows:

1) RULES FOR ANYONE WHO IS COVID-19 POSITIVE:

Anyone who is Covid-19 positive must stay in full isolation according to the following provisions:

- Those who have always been asymptomatic and those who have had no symptoms for at least 2 (two) days, can terminate their isolation after 5 (five) days from the first positive test, or, from symptom appearance, with no need of a negative test;
- For those who have always been asymptomatic, isolation can terminate even before the above-mentioned 5 days, should an official test (*i.e.* made at a pharmacy or at a health structure) be negative;
- Those who enter Italy from China in the 7 (seven) days before the first positive test, can terminate isolation after a minimum period of 5 (five) days from the first positive test, if asymptomatic for at least 2 (two) days and negative after an official test.

At the end of isolation, one must wear a FFP2 mask until the 10th day from the start of symptomatology, or, the first positive test (if asymptomatic), clearly avoiding high risk people or crowded places. Such precautions can be stopped if one is negative to an official test.

Violation of isolation is a serious infringement of the law, that may even represent a crime under Italian law (“epidemia colposa,” namely, transmission of epidemic due to negligence). Programs should not allow, to the extent possible, any such violations, in order to not run into potential direct responsibilities.

2) RULES FOR CLOSE CONTACTS WITH COVID-19 POSITIVE SUBJECTS:

Anyone who has had a close contact with a Covid-19 positive subject will be obliged to follow the so-called “self-monitoring regime” (“auto sorveglianza”), which means:

- Obligation to wear a FFP2 mask indoors or when there is an “assembramento” outdoors, until the 5th day after the date of the last close contact with Covid-19 positive subjects.