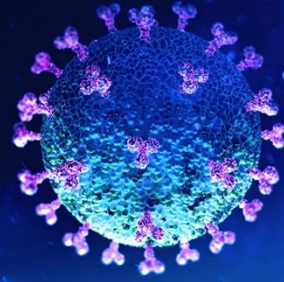




UNIVERSITY OF CAPE TOWN
IYUNIVESITHI YASEKAPA • UNIVERSITEIT VAN KAAPSTAD

**Find out more about UCT's approach
to COVID-19 on the UCT website**



24 March 2020

More buses for students as UCT is set to close residences

More buses have been arranged by the University of Cape Town for students who have requested travel assistance in light of the looming national lockdown to commence at midnight on Thursday, 26 March 2020.

UCT is putting every possible measure in place to support as much as possible students who have had to vacate residences as part of the efforts to reduce the risk of COVID-19 infections.

On Thursday, 19 March, buses transported hundreds of students to the Eastern Cape, Free State, Gauteng and KwaZulu Natal. More buses will depart on Tuesday, 24 March at 18:00, also headed to five metros in the four provinces. Students who need to travel a further distance from the metros will be assisted to ensure that they reach their homes safely.

Further arrangements put in place last week to support students through this unprecedented period included immediate payment of allowances for all students on financial aid, liaising with the Department of Home Affairs in cases involving international students and securing safe storage for students' belongings.

Following the announcement of a lockdown by President Cyril Ramaphosa in order to contain the spread of the virus and "flatten the curve", UCT has to close all residences and require every student to return home as soon as possible.

As a result of the lockdown, no member of staff will be allowed in any UCT building, including residences. All academic activities, including research, will also cease.

All students – including those who received prior approval to stay – must vacate UCT premises urgently by 17:00 on Wednesday, 25 March. The university will engage with foreign embassies to ensure that international students can return safely to their countries.

This unprecedented crisis creates many anxieties and personal complexities for all members of the UCT community, yet all carry a huge responsibility to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 epidemic on our country.

READ: [VC Desk on UCT taking steps to support national lockdown.](#)

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