



**Western Cape
Government**

Agriculture

Version 1

Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute

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As the time draws closer for the return to the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute (EATI), a number of questions have been raised particularly concerning the health and well-being of our students. The anxiety around the unpredictability of COVID -19 is acknowledged and understood, since it affects each and every one of us in different ways. While EATI is committed to ensuring a successful academic year, it is also mindful of the concerns raised. The list of questions below will help to create an understanding of the measures put in place to ensure a reasonably safe return to the campus. However, each one of the EATI community on campus will be expected to follow strict social distancing, wearing of masks, regular use of sanitisers and washing of hands with soap and water.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. When does the College re-open for contact classes?

With the country shifting to level 3 lockdown as of 1 June, the Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute (EATI) will open its doors for contact learning on 17 June 2020 through a phased return of students and staff.

Group 1: 17 June to 18 July

Bachelor of Agriculture third years; Higher Certificate in Agriculture second years; Diploma in Agriculture second years; and All Equine Studies students

Group 2: 22 July to 21 August

Bachelor of Agriculture first and second years; Diploma in Agriculture first years; and Diploma in Cellar Technology (1 year programme)

Group 3: 29 June to 18 July

Learnership students

Students are kindly requested not to return to campus unless indicated as per the groups above.

2. If a travel permit is required in order to return to campus, how is it obtained?

A permit to travel will be issued to the student and or the person(s) transporting the student, based on the information requested below, being received. Students travelling from another province/ metropolitan area/district who require a travel permit, should send an email to study@elsenburg.com

with the following information:

- Full names of student
- Surname of student
- Residential address
- Province of residence
- Metropolitan area/district of residence
- Full names of primary caregiver

- Contact details of primary caregiver (Cell number, Home telephone number and email address)

Should the student have someone transporting him/her, the following **details of the person transporting the student should also be provided:**

- Full names
- Surname
- Province travelling from
- Metropolitan area/district travelling from
- Vehicle registration number
- Contact details of driver (Cell number, Home telephone number and email address)

3. Which measures have been put in place in response to the COVID-19 challenges?

A task team has been appointed to address the monitoring, prevention and response plans to the corona virus (COVID-19). Several measures have been put in place to mitigate the risk of exposure to the virus around the lecture halls and the hostels, which are in line with health and safety protocols. This includes health and symptom monitoring, social distancing, wearing personal protective equipment and increased cleaning and sanitising of buildings and equipment. Each student will be expected to follow strict health and safety requirements when on campus. All lecturers and hostel staff will be expected to follow social distancing and sanitising practices. Everyone is encouraged to wash hands as frequently as possible with water and soap or to use the sanitiser that will be made available.

4. What can be done if a student is unable to return to campus during the rotation period because of personal and/or medical reasons?

Students who cannot return to campus during the rotation period for personal and/or medical reasons can continue through online learning with prior arrangements. A formal request with supporting documents must be submitted via study@elsenburg.com for consideration by the Head of the College.

5. How can international students return to the college?

International students will be provided with a letter of confirmation as well as a permit for travel purposes. International students are expected to follow the guidelines for travel as well as the health and safety protocols as stipulated by the South African Government – these will include a period of isolation before being allowed back to lectures (the details will be discussed with the relevant students). International students who intend to return to campus must send an e-mail to study@elsenburg.com with the expected date of arrival.

6. Will the College consider a rebate on accommodation fees?

A rebate on hostel fees will be made. Arrangements with regard to credit on hostel fees and the relaxation of payment will be facilitated. Enquiries can be directed to study@elsenburg.com

7. What is the process if a student tests positive for COVID-19 on campus?

Arrangements are in place to ensure the safety of all students, should a COVID-19 positive case be confirmed. The national health protocol will be followed which includes the following:

- Students will complete a screening questionnaire on a daily basis in order to control the status of health of the student population
- The following steps will be done should a student show symptoms of the COVID-19 virus:
 - **A day student/s** will be requested to return home, seek medical advice and continue with self-isolation.
 - **A hostel student/s** will be accommodated in a holding venue on campus to ensure isolation and or further medical advice and treatment.
 - The whole **campus will be sanitised** and decontaminated, i.e. the hostels, lecture rooms, dining hall and all other related venues.
 - **Alternative arrangements** will be put in place for hostel students during the period of sanitising the hostels.
- In the instance of **a lecturer or staff** member testing positive for COVID-19:
 - The **lecturer** will be requested to remain at, or return to the relevant place of residence, seek medical advice and continue with self-isolation.
 - The lecture **venues and offices will be sanitised** and decontaminated
- Any person in contact with a COVID-19 positive individual on campus will undergo the screening process and should he or she show any symptoms, will be requested to follow the national health protocol, which include medical advice, testing and self-isolation.

It is very important that students confirm information regarding their next-of-kin and the person to be contacted in case of emergency.

Further information with regard to the guidelines for quarantine and isolation in relation to COVID-19 can be found by following the link below:

<https://www.nicd.ac.za/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/Guidelines-for-Quarantine-and-Isolation-in-relation-to-COVID-19.pdf>

The Elsenburg Agricultural Training Institute (EATI) put safety measures in place to reduce risks brought by the COVID-19 pandemic and to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Cloth masks and sanitiser will be issued to each student and staff member. Further precautionary measures were put in place such as the marking of spaces to ensure social distancing.

Frequently asked questions: Students return to College

In terms of the management of cases at EATI, the following guidelines will be followed:

- Those who have been in close contact (e.g. handshake or hug) with a confirmed positive case (whether on campus or off campus) will be required to self-isolate for 14 days from their last contact with the individual:
 - In case of a day student, self-isolate for 14 days.
 - In case of a hostel dweller, the student will be accommodated in the isolation area on campus.
- Those not in close contact do not have to self-isolate. Those who are casual contacts must be monitored for symptoms.
- If there has been a confirmed case of COVID-19 the various venues on the campus will be sanitised and decontaminated, i.e. hostels, lecture rooms, offices, dining hall.

Following the golden rules

The most important we can all do during this pandemic is to follow the golden rules, which include:

- Keep your hands clean, wash them regularly with soap and water (or use hand-sanitiser)
- Keep your distance from other people (at least 1.5 metres)
- Sneeze into a tissue or the corner of your arm
- Wear a clean cloth mask properly
- Students are requested to complete the electronic screening questionnaire on a daily basis before 08:00am each morning. Submission of this screening questionnaire is compulsory in order for us to manage the cases on campus.

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