



Knowledge Innovation Excellence

PRESS RELEASE

REOPENING OF LUANAR COLLEGES

Following the directive from the Government on the reopening of schools, the LUANAR management agreed that both Bunda and NRC colleges should reopen on 14 September 2020 under the following conditions:

1 COVID 19 PREVENTIVE MEASURES

1.1 Responsibilities of the University

The University will undertake the following measures to ensure the safety of its staff and students before and after reopening the colleges:

- a) Train all university staff and students on COVID 19 and its related issues.
- b) Reduce the capacity of lecture rooms, hostels and offices to ensure compliance with the mandatory 1-metre apart social distancing requirement.
- c) Clean and disinfect university premises, rooms and paraphernalia. The University will also clean and disinfect restrooms and all classrooms at least four times a day.
- d) Engage all external stakeholders, including providers of private accommodation to ensure their readiness to host students in line with COVID-19 preventive guidelines.

- e) Posting LUANARs COVID 19 response team hotline, COVID prevention guidelines and reminders to staff and students on the required hand and respiratory hygiene practices, and prevention of the spread of COVID-19 in all strategic places on campus.
- f) Provide handwashing stations and materials around campus.
- g) Control the number of visitors on campus by enforcing the wearing of identity documents by staff and students while on campus.
- h) Frequently monitor body temperatures of staff and students around campus.
- i) Designate and set up isolation facilities at each College to host suspected COVID 19 patients pending their referral to national treatment and quarantine centres.
- j) Establish COVID 19 College Monitoring Teams comprising members of staff and students to monitor compliance with the COVID 19 preventive measure and for early detection of cases.
- k) Ensure that all lectures will start with reminders on COVID-19 and related issues.
- l) Enforce the mandatory use of face masks at all times by staff, students and visitors while on campus.

1.2 Responsibilities of the students

All students will be required to comply with the following mandatory requirements:

- a) Frequent and thorough hand washing using soap for at least for 20 seconds at all designated handwashing stations.
- b) Willfully subject themselves at all designated places and sessions for temperature screening.
- c) Observe the required social distancing requirement at all times on and off campus.
- d) Use face masks at all times while on and off campus.

- e) Refrain from attending classes if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 and immediately report yourself or any suspected cases to the LUANAR COVID 19 response team.
- f) Use of the most direct route to LUANAR to ensure students safety from exposure to COVID.
- g) Access the self-orientation session through their SARIS account before arrival on campus.

2 SEMESTER CONFIGURATION

2.1 Arrival of various groups of students on campus and semester ending dates

In line with the government directive that universities should open in September 2020 for face-to-face mode of delivery but in phases and preferably starting with final year students, LUANAR management resolved that the current semester should be configured as follows:

2.1.1 Bunda College (ODL, Bunda and City Campuses)

| # | Group | Activity | Period for classes and exams |
|----|--|--------------------|---|
| 1. | Current ODL year one students' | practical's | 14 September 2020 to 18 September 2020 (1 week) |
| 2. | Year 4 students at Bunda and City Campuses | Lectures and exams | 14 September 2020 to 30 October 2020 (6 weeks) |
| 3. | Current year one students' at Bunda and City Campuses | Lectures and exams | 14 September 2020 to 13 November 2020 (8 weeks) |
| 4. | Current Postgraduate students at Bunda and City campuses | Lectures and exams | 5 October 2020 to 22 January 2020 (15 Weeks) |

| # | Group | Activity | Period for classes and exams |
|----|---|--------------------|---|
| 5. | Postgraduate students at Bunda and City campuses selected in May 2020 | Lectures and exams | 5 October 2020 to 22 January 2020 (15 Weeks) |
| 6. | All ODL students | Exams | 2 Nov 2020 to 6 Nov 2020 (1 week) |
| 7. | Current Year 2 and 3 students at Bunda and city campuses | Lectures and exams | 9 November 2020 to 18 December 2020 (6 weeks) |

- a) Current undergraduate students at Bunda and City Campus have to report at their respective campus from 10 September 2020 to attend training on COVID 19 and orientation on arrangements for the semester.
- b) The opening date for all new undergraduate students selected to Bunda College in 2020 will be announced in due course.

2.1.2 Natural Resources College

| # | Group | Activity | Period for classes and exams |
|----|--|--------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. | Generic Diploma students in Semester 5 and 6 | Lectures and exams | 14 September 2020 to 15 January 2020 |
| 2. | Bachelor of Science in Food Technology (all continuing students in semester 2, 4, and 6) | Lectures and exams | 14 September 2020 to 15 January 2020 |
| 3. | Bachelor of Science in Food Technology, new students selected in 2020. | Lectures and exams | 14 September 2020 to 15 January 2020 |

| # | Group | Activity | Period for classes and exams |
|----|--|--------------------|--|
| 4. | Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Medicine (Foundation Year), new students selected in 2020. | Lectures and exams | 14 September 2020 to 15 January 2020 |
| 5. | Weekend diploma Students. | Lectures and exams | 19 September 2020 to 15 January 2020 |
| 6. | Generic diploma Students in Semester 1 (cohort 2) | Lectures and exams | 28 September 2020 to 15 January 2020 |
| 7. | Generic diploma students in Semesters 2 to 4 and new students selected in 2020 | Lectures and exams | 3 January 2021 or earlier subject to monitoring of the COVID 19 situation. |

All students who have not been invited to report to their colleges through this press release must refrain from visiting the colleges after they reopen. These students are requested to use other means of communication like emails and telephone to get in touch with members of staff.

2.2 Mode of delivery

2.2.1 Undergraduate students at Bunda and City Campus

All undergraduate students at Bunda college will use a combination of face-to-face and e-learning modes of learning but only for the student who will be present on campus.

2.2.2 Undergraduate students at Natural Resources Colleges

All undergraduate students at Natural Resources college will use a combination of face-to-face and e-learning modes of learning but only for the student who will be present on campus.

2.2.3 Postgraduate students

All postgraduate students in the departments of Agriculture and Applied Economics and Aquaculture and Fisheries Science will use the e-learning mode of delivery until international students are invited to continue their studies on campus. These students will be required to attend the e-learning orientation workshop to be offered by the College on Tuesday, 15 September 2020. The academic office will communicate through email to all students who are supposed to attend online training.

Postgraduate students in the other LUANAR departments will use the face-to-face mode of delivery at their respective campuses.

2.3 Registration arrangement for students

All students will be required to register as students of the University within two weeks from the date of reopening the colleges. Students are reminded that registration is subject to paying the required fees for the semester, as indicated in section 2.3.1 below.

All undergraduate students will be required to pay full fees for the semester. Those who had already made part payments before the College was closed will be required to finish paying the remainder of their semester fees by 30 September 2020. Undergraduate students at Bunda College will also be required to complete their registration for exams by 30 September 2020.

2.3.1 Fees

| Level of study | College and Campus | Annual Tuition fees |
|---------------------------------|---|---------------------|
| Undergraduate Diploma | Bunda College and Natural Resources College (NRC) | MWK420,000.00 |

| Level of study | College and Campus | Annual Tuition fees |
|--|--|--|
| Undergraduate Bachelor's Degree | Generic or Mature entry, Open and Distance Learning (ODL) | MWK350,000.00 |
| | Generic or Mature entry, Bunda College (City Campus) | MWK890,000.00 |
| | Mature entry, Bunda College (Bunda Campus) and Natural Resources College (NRC) | MWK950,000.00 |
| Postgraduates Postgraduate Certificate, Postgraduate Diploma and master's degree | Bunda College (Bunda and city campus) | \$2,500.00 USD local \$3,574.00 USD International |
| Postgraduates PhD | Bunda College, Bunda Campus | \$3,000.00 USD local \$3,600.00 USD International |

2.4 Campus accommodation

All students are encouraged to settle in only management approved accommodation facilities which will be listed as certified to meet COVID-19 Government recommended guidelines. The list of approved facilities will be available at the College Business Centre at NRC and Porters Lodge or City Campus receptions for Bunda College one week before student arrival. The approved lists will also be shared with the students through their Student Union representatives.

All students who are in possession of hostel keys and left personal items in the rooms must remove their items before reopening of the Colleges. Otherwise,

any personal items found in the hostel rooms will be removed by the Colleges and be stored safely in other facilities.

Students who were not in college hostels should check their SARIS portals by 11 September 2020 to see if they have been allocated a room on campus. All students who will occupy campus accommodation will be charged rentals for their stay on campus. The Director of Student Affairs will release a programme for the collection of keys before reopening of the colleges.

2.5 Mode of Payment

All fees should be paid using the following bank accounts. Students are urged to ensure that they use an appropriate bank account for their College and campus and that the deposit slips are machine-printed at the back and bears the name of the student and LUANAR ID number. The University does not receive cash, postal orders or cheque payments. The University does not have a Mpamba or Airtel Money Account. Fees must be deposited into the appropriate University's bank accounts held at the following banks:

2.5.1 Bunda college – Bunda campus

| DETAILS | NATIONAL BANK OF MALAWI | NBS BANK |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Account Name | Bunda Fees Account | LUANAR Fees Account |
| Account Type | Current | Current |
| Account Number | 2175762 | 14405868 |
| Branch | Lilongwe Branch | Lilongwe Branch |
| Swift Code | NBMAMWMW008 | NBSTMWMW |

2.5.2 Bunda College – City campus

| DETAILS | NATIONAL BANK OF MALAWI |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| Account Name | LUANAR Off-Campus |
| Account Type | Current |

| | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| DETAILS | NATIONAL BANK OF MALAWI |
| Account Number | 1001595691 |
| Branch | Lilongwe Branch |
| Swift Code | NBMAMWMW008 |

2.5.3 Bunda College – ODL

| | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| DETAILS | NATIONAL BANK OF MALAWI |
| Account Name | ODL fees Account |
| Account Type | Current |
| Account Number | 1002868683 |
| Branch | Lilongwe gateway service centre |
| Swift Code | NBMAMWMW008 |

2.5.4 Natural Resources College

| DETAILS | Weekend Students | Generic and Mature Entry Students |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|--|
| Account Name | NRC Fees Weekend | NRC Fees Account |
| Account Type | Current | Current |
| Account Number | 1001854867 | 1848984 |
| Branch | Lilongwe Branch | Lilongwe Branch |
| Swift Code | NBMAMWMW008 | NBMAMWMW008 |

2.6 Off-Campus Accommodation Fees

All stakeholders who provide private accommodation to LUANAR students have been engaged to ensure that their facilities are ready to host students and comply with COVID 19 preventive guidelines. Students are encouraged to report any such provision to the Director of Student Affairs if the facilities of any accommodation provider are violating the COVID 19 preventive requirements.

2.7 Requirements for the next semester most likely to start in January 2021

The University is planning that the next semester should commence between January and February 2021 or earlier subject to monitoring of the COVID 19 situation. Students are reminded that progression into the next semester will be based on academic performance for candidates completing an academic year and completion of full fees for the previous semester and payment of half of the new semester fees.

The University Management believes that together we can navigate through the COVID 19 pandemic safely.

UNIVERSITY REGISTRAR