



Energy saving measures at the University of Cologne

Since September 2022, nationwide legal regulations on saving energy in public buildings have been in force, limited until the end of February 2023. In addition, the universities in North Rhine-Westphalia have voluntarily committed themselves to saving around 20 % energy. Nevertheless, the aim is to ensure that research and teaching at the university can continue without restrictions as far as possible during the winter semester.

Effects in everyday working life - noticeable every day

A room temperature of 19 degrees in offices and lecture halls, unheated corridors and foyers, lighting only where necessary and turning off the hot water supply are the most important measures you will notice every day. There are exceptions for certain areas of the buildings. Despite the legal requirements, the UoC is still obliged to ensure occupational health and safety. Through its right to information and co-determination, the staff council can exert influence and must be involved if individual measures affect the health of staff, for example, or rules of conduct are to be prescribed.

Christmas break - no obligation to work from home, no compulsory leave

During the lecture-free period from 23 December 2022 to 6 January 2023, the energy supply will be further reduced throughout all the buildings. So you can expect office spaces to be significantly cooled down. Working from home (see DV on mobile working) or taking leave are options. **However, you are not obliged to do so.** If you want to work on site, you can also do so during lecture-free days. Your department must provide you with a sufficiently heated (19 degrees) and equipped workplace. This does not have to be your office, other areas can be designated. If you want to work on site, speak to those responsible in your area in good time. This way, all sides have planning security, enough time to prepare, and you don't run the risk of sitting in the cold.

Should any difficulties arise with regard to the above-mentioned regulations, you are welcome to contact us.

For further reading:

Sustainability at the UoC:

<https://portal.uni-koeln.de/universitaet/universitaet-auf-einen-blick/nachhaltigkeit>

Saving energy at the UoC:

<https://portal.uni-koeln.de/universitaet/universitaet-auf-einen-blick/nachhaltigkeit/energiesparen-an-der-uni-koeln>

Voluntary commitment of the universities:

https://www.mkw.nrw/presse/PK_Wintersemester2022

Ordinance on the security of energy supply on measures effective in the short term (EnSikuMaV), §§5,6,7

<https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/ensikumav/BJNR144600022.html>

State Employee Representation Act: see §72 (4) 7., 9.

https://recht.nrw.de/lmi/owa/br_bes_detail?sg=0&menu=0&bes_id=4223&anw_nr=2&aufgehoben=N&det_id=556213

Mobile work at the UoC:

https://verwaltung.uni-koeln.de/abteilung41/content/themen_von_a_z/mobile_arbeit/index_ger.html

Do you have any questions? Please feel free to talk to us!

Universitätsstraße 16 (Geb. 331), 50923 Köln
Geschäftszimmer: Fr. Breuer, Fr. Walther

0221-470-76151 (Mo-Do, 9:00-14:00)

personalrat-wiss@uni-koeln.de
prwiss.uni-koeln.de