

UMS welcomes new intake of about 4,000 students virtually

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By [Olivia Miwil](#) - October 7, 2020 @ 4:23pm



While UMS understood the batch's excitement to begin their journey as university students, precautionary measures had to be put in place following spikes in cases. - Photo by Bernama.

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) welcomed a new batch of students through a virtual setting today, as part of its efforts to break the chain of Covid-19 infections.

Its vice-chancellor Prof Dr Taufiq Yap said while UMS understood the batch's excitement to begin their journey as university students, precautionary measures had to be put in place following spikes in cases.

"However, we are facing an unpredictable situation, thus a drastic decision had to be taken by the university to postpone the physical enrolment of students.

"It is hoped that all students can understand the situation we are facing today and adapt to the new norms," he said in a live telecast in conjunction with ice-breaking sessions with the students today.

For the 2020/2021 intake, UMS received 4,290 students, among which 2,462 were from Sabah while the rest were from other states.

UMS also saw 131 international students from China, Bangladesh, Brunei, Korea, Japan, Indonesia, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well as 12 people with disabilities.

"We will shoulder the responsibility together to prepare UMS students with all the necessities.

"I believe all of the students will continue to open their minds and hearts to accept any (mode of) learning based on the new norms, which mostly will be done online," Yap said.

Starting today, a two-week Conditional Movement Control Order has been implemented in Kota Kinabalu, Penampang and Putatan to contain the spread of Covid-19.

Sabah has now six red zones which include Kota Kinabalu, Kunak, Semporna, Tawau, Lahad Datu and Sandakan.

The state capital has 165 active cases with an additional 42 yesterday, Penampang has 21 and Putatan 26.