Covid-19: UMS develops app to monitor students' health

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UMS has developed a web application for students returning home, to prevent the spread of Covid-19. – AFP pic for illustration purposes only

KOTA KINABALU: Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) has developed a web application for students returning home, to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

The UMS-Shields was developed by the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences and Faculty of Computing and Informatics.

Project leader Dr Fatimah Ahmedy said it is a system for empowerment and disease surveillance, based on the concept of 'smart health' with artificial intelligence (AI).

"Although the UMS health mobility team does daily health monitoring, the system would be able to detect early deterioration in health with real-time monitoring.

"Therefore, early intervention can be delivered to prevent complications, including problems with the respiratory system and excessive anxiety," she said in a statement.

She added that the application is based on three modules which includes health screening, risk assessment and health monitoring instruments.

It also has an integrated tracking system which ensures compliance throughout the quarantine period for students required to do so.

Following a directive issued by the National Security Council that allowed movement across the state starting today, UMS has planned a health screening for nearly 6,000 students at all residential colleges in Kota Kinabalu, Sandakan and Labuan.

"The use of this application has to be optimised to curb Covid-19 transmission at UMS by embedding a variety of functions," said Vice-Chancellor Professor Datuk Dr. Taufiq Yap Yun Hin.

"This health screening is essential to ensure students returning home are free from Covid-19 and are at low risk of infecting others," he added.