

## **What will happen to classroom teaching and regular examinations when a weather warning, an evacuation advisory, etc. is issued?**

Kochi University has the following rule in place to protect its students that applies to classroom teaching, regular examinations, etc. (“Classes”) in the event that typhoons or other natural disasters are likely to occur:

- 1) What will happen to Classes when a weather warning is issued?  
Decisions to cancel Classes or take other measures will be made at the discretion of each campus. The Asakura Campus should follow weather warnings issued by Kochi City while the Oko Campus should follow weather warnings issued by Kochi City or Nankoku City and the Monobe Campus should follow weather warnings issued by Nankoku City or Konan City.
  - (1) What will happen to Classes when a storm warning is issued?  
When a storm warning is issued by the Kochi Local Meteorological Observatory, Classes will be canceled as follows:
    - i. If a storm warning has been issued by 7:00 am, morning Classes will be canceled.
    - ii. If a storm warning has been issued between 7:00 am and 11:00 am, subsequent morning Classes will be canceled.
    - iii. If the storm warning has been lifted by 11:00 am, afternoon Classes will be conducted, but otherwise, they will be canceled.
    - iv. If a storm warning has been issued after 11:00 am, subsequent afternoon Classes will be canceled.
  - (2) What will happen to Classes when a severe weather warning is issued?  
When a severe weather warning for heavy rain, a storm, heavy snow, or a blizzard is issued by the Kochi Local Meteorological Observatory, decisions shall be made about Classes scheduled for that day as follows:
    - i. If a severe weather warning has been issued by 7:00 am, all Classes will be canceled.
    - ii. If a severe weather warning has been issued after the start of Classes, all Classes scheduled for that day on the affected campus(es) will be immediately suspended.
    - iii. Even if the severe weather warning has been lifted, no Classes will be conducted for the rest of the day.
  - (3) What will happen to Classes when any other warning is issued?  
When any other warning is issued, Classes will not generally be canceled. However, Classes may be canceled depending on the weather conditions after discussion between the head of the Institute for Education in Liberal Arts and Sciences and the deans of relevant faculties.
- 2) What will happen to Classes when an evacuation advisory, etc.\* is issued?  
When an evacuation advisory, etc. is issued by the local authorities for any of the areas where Kochi University's campuses are located, decisions shall be made about Classes scheduled for that day as follows:
  - (1) What will happen to Classes when an evacuation order is issued?  
When an evacuation order is issued by the local authorities, Classes will be canceled as follows:
    - i. If an evacuation order has been issued by 7:00 am, all Classes will be canceled.
    - ii. If an evacuation order has been issued after the start of Classes, all Classes scheduled for that day on the affected campus(es) will be immediately suspended.
    - iii. Even if the evacuation order has been lifted, no Classes will be conducted for the rest of the day.
  - (2) What will happen to Classes when an evacuation alert, an evacuation advisory, etc. is issued?  
When an evacuation alert, other than an evacuation order, is issued by the local authorities, the head of the International Student Affairs Section and the deans of relevant faculties will discuss and determine what measures should be taken.

\* Evacuation advisories, etc.

Evacuation alerts, evaluation advisories, and evaluation orders

In the event that a natural disaster has occurred or is likely to occur, evacuation alerts, evaluation advisories, and/or evaluation orders will be issued by local authorities based on observational data of the Japan Meteorological Agency and the Ministry of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism and according to the degree of damage that has been caused or is likely to be caused. These alerts, advisories, and/or orders will be issued in addition to weather warnings, weather alerts, and/or severe weather warnings issued by the Japan Meteorological Agency.

Landslide warnings

Landslide warnings will be jointly issued by local authorities and the Japan Meteorological Agency if there are increased landslide hazards while warnings for heavy rain are in force.

Excerpted from the “Guidelines on How to Develop a Manual for Issuing and Communicating Evacuation Advisories, etc.” (amended by the Disaster Management Department of the Cabinet Office in August, 2015)

“If a natural disaster is likely to occur, the mayors of local authorities should issue evaluation advisories, etc. to the local residents who are at greater risk. The mayors of local authorities are responsible for providing knowledge and information to help each and every local resident to make an informed decision to evacuate. Based on such knowledge and information, the local residents will then be able to decide whether to evacuate.”

- 3) What will happen to Classes when a weather warning, an evacuation advisory, etc. is issued in your area?  
Put your safety first if you are concerned about your safety when a weather warning, an evacuation advisory, etc. is issued where you live or on your way home to or from the University. If you miss your class under these circumstances or are unable to travel to campus due to delays or disruptions in public transportation, your absence will be dealt with in accordance with the University's policy for students' absence under exceptional circumstances at your request. If you are unable to take a regular examination (or are more than 30 minutes' late for a regular examination), your absence will be dealt with in accordance with the University's make-up examination policy at your request.
- 4) How to check and communicate class cancellations  
Class cancellations should be checked and communicated as follows:
  - (1) Each faculty should ensure that its students and staff are fully aware of how class cancellations will be communicated.
  - (2) Students and faculty staff should check if weather warnings, evacuation advisories, etc. have been issued by checking weather forecasts provided by the Kochi Local Meteorological Observatory and/or reported on the media.
  - (3) The University will communicate class cancellations on the Kochi University Learners' Application System (KULAS) and its website.
  - (4) If it is not safe for students to go home immediately after a decision to cancel Classes has been made, students will be required to remain on campus or other necessary measures will be taken at the discretion of the head of the Institute for Education in Liberal Arts and Sciences.
- 5) Provision of supplementary classes
  - (1) If Classes are canceled as described in Section 1) and 2) above, supplementary classes will be provided or other appropriate measures will be taken. The class instructors will decide how to provide supplementary classes and communicate it to the students.
  - (2) If a regular examination is canceled, an alternative examination date will generally be the day after the final examination date (which may be a Saturday or a Sunday).
- 6) Other
  - (1) If any other unforeseen circumstances occur, the head of the International Student Affairs Section of the Center for International Collaboration and the deans of relevant faculties will discuss and determine what measures should be taken.