

08 April 2020

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Dear Student

With reference to letter C14301 from the Director of The IIE, we would like to advise you of the following in order for you to engage with your studies online from 15 April until we are able to resume contact sessions.

For those of you who have access to data and connectivity, you can log directly onto RCLearn which will become the main interface between you and your lecturer.

We have made provision for those who require assistance to access RCLearn, due to data restrictions, by making access to RCLearn and the student portal free via the Telkom data network.

To access this you will need to do the following:

- Purchase a Telkom sim card. This costs 99c and is available at supermarkets like Checkers. The person purchasing the sim card will need their ID document and proof of residence for RICA purposes.
- Insert the sim card into your device.
- Load a minimum amount of data. You will need the data to navigate to the RCLearn URL. Once you are in RCLearn you will not pay for data unless you click on external links. You will also need the data to download the Blackboard app. Again, once you are in the app you will not be charged for data unless you click on links to external sites.
- Decide whether it is easier to navigate via the URL (desktop version) or the Blackboard app. In some instances, it is easier to navigate using the desktop version because you can rotate your phone to the landscape position, making interaction slightly easier. This is the recommended approach.
- Free access to the student portal will also be available via the Telkom sim card.

To make the transition to the online format easier for you, please complete the SLP (Short Learning Programme) introducing the concept of online learning to students who are mostly familiar with the face-to-face mode of delivery. This will be free using the Telkom option.

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If you do not have access to connectivity or a device, you need to contact your campus directly and advise them of the situation. Please call your campus (see the letterhead for relevant telephone numbers) and leave your details with the receptionist who will escalate to the academic department.

If your module is one of the specialized modules requiring specific software not available on RCLearn, you will need to contact the campus directly.

Some Tips:

- Data is becoming the new currency and we advise students to consider re-allocating the cost that would have been spent on transport to classes on campus, to the purchase of data for the initial expense of getting access to RCLearn.
- To save data, rather download material at off peak times and work offline. You could then use any data required for online sessions with your lecturer.

Should you have any additional queries, please feel free to contact your campus directly. Alternatively, you can load your query directly onto the student hub using the MyRC app or the Rosebank College website.

We look forward to engaging with you online and wish you and your family a safe and healthy lockdown period.

Yours Sincerely

Adrian Garden
National Teaching and Learning Manager
Rosebank College

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