



## GSE Research Resumption Plan May 27, 2020

As noted in the University's research resumption plan, the university will begin to allow researchers to return to campus for essential research activities in three phases. President Gutmann has approved the first phase of research resumption to begin on June 1. The following description of the 3 phases was included in the university plan:

- Phase I: Increase of prioritized research with enforced population density restrictions and telework continued.
- Phase II: Expanded scope of research operations increasing population with social distancing enforced, telework continued.
- Phase III: Return to full research operations, with new awareness and hygiene practices as the norm and telework utilized where possible.

In addition, the university's plan articulated the following principles that will guide the return to campus research:

- Minimize risks to protect the physical and mental health and safety of the research community, clinical patients and human research subjects, and the community at large.
- Minimize adverse impact on early stage researchers
- Sustain the highest levels of excellence in research
- Prioritize COVID-19 related research across all fields

In compliance with the university's overall plan, GSE has developed the following process for researchers to return to campus to resume research activities. This includes a process for requesting access, monitoring safety and health on campus, and ensuring that students and post-docs actively opt-in to any on-campus research activities.

### *Requesting Access to Campus to Resume Research*

The goal of both Phase 1 and Phase 2 at GSE is to enable in-person research to begin with the fewest people possible and continued reliance on teleworking. We are hopeful as a school that the vast majority of faculty and student research can continue while teleworking, yet we recognize there may be reasons from time to time that a faculty member and or one of your students need to get into the building to access your office, equipment, or a secure data room.

If faculty have a need to be on campus, they will need to present a request to GSE leadership to do so. These plans should include the following components:

- Why faculty member or your researchers need to be on campus to conduct research
- Who will be coming to campus to engage in research activities

- How faculty will provide oversight of researchers' activities on-campus
- How faculty will communicate Penn policies on meetings and use of general space that align with University requirements (social distancing, wearing masks, etc).
- It is assumed that very few projects in GSE will need to resume in person on campus, and therefore population density in our buildings will be near zero. If faculty have a project on campus with greater than 10 people, they will need to detail how they will manage this density safely.

*Monitoring Health and Safe on Campus:*

If a faculty member's plan is approved, we will make clear that they and anyone working on their project will need to follow all CDC and Penn guidelines while on campus, including: washing hands often, avoiding close contact with other individuals—maintaining six feet of separation at all times, covering mouth and nose with a face cover when around others, covering coughs and sneezes, and frequently cleaning and disinfecting offices and research spaces.

Further, Penn lab workers must monitor their health daily. Penn lab personnel must stay home and notify their PI or Lab Manager if they experience:

- Shortness of breath or a cough within the last 14 days

*Or at least two of these symptoms:*

- Temperature exceeds 99.8 F when measured with a household thermometer
- If you are unable to take your temperature, evaluate if you have signs/symptoms of a fever: sweating, chills and shivering, headache, muscle aches, loss of appetite, irritability, dehydration and general weakness.
- Loss of smell or taste
- Sore throat
- Anyone in your household has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has demonstrated COVID-19 symptoms within the last 14 days.
- You have had close contact (within 6 feet for 10 or more minutes) with anyone outside your home who has a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis or COVID-19 symptoms within the last 14 days.

EHRS is performing critical contact tracing for the University of Pennsylvania. Report all Suspected/Probable/Confirmed cases to EHRS 215-898-4453 (24 hours)

*Participation of Graduate Students and Post-docs*

Per University policy, participation of graduate students and postdocs in on-campus research activity is **voluntary**. As part of the Research Resumption Plan, Schools and graduate groups, in collaboration with the School's Graduate Deans, are responsible for establishing processes for students to opt into research.

Accordingly, when faculty submit a proposal for on-campus research, we will ask them to list any students or post-docs that they plan to ask to come to campus to engage in their research. The Grants & Research office will then reach out to students to make sure that they are willingly "opting in" to do the work. We will inform faculty of the decision of students and post-docs and whether or not they can ask them to come to campus.

We will also let students and postdocs know that they can contact the provost's office with concerns about the School-based procedures and provide them with the following contact information: [provost-ed@upenn.edu](mailto:provost-ed@upenn.edu) for students or [vpr@upenn.edu](mailto:vpr@upenn.edu) for postdocs. Completion of the COVID-19 training module in Knowledgeline is required.