

Preparing for Restarting Research – Campus and Field Studies – Step 1

This document is not the university checklist for returning to research, but rather some considerations for faculty/staff/students to think about as they develop plans to return safely to research.

1. Researchers should familiarize themselves with COVID, the spread of disease and how to minimize the spread of disease.
 - Information on the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and how **to minimize** the spread of germs: <https://www.agsafe.org/covid19-resources/webinars-and-videos/>
 - The BSL-2 training by CSU is another option: <http://www.ehs.colostate.edu/WTrainReg/ClassSignUp.aspx>
 - Wash hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds or more, or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available: <https://safety.colostate.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Soapfor20.pdf> and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nEzJ_QkT14
 - Wear a bandana or other cloth face covering at all times while on a university campus. This is a directive from both the governor and the university. We are expecting the university will provide masks – more details to follow later. See the following for how to put on and take off a mask: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4xFY3aPF7E4>
 - Disinfecting surfaces (how to): https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BVvb_-d6gfQ; Other resources are available (see attached documents). Effectiveness of disinfectants depends on the type, concentration and contact time.
 - i. Lab benches vs. desks [Follow directions of specific disinfectant]
 - ii. Keyboards [Use an ethanol or isopropanol solution and let air dry]
2. Preparing research spaces for restarting research. Some considerations to help with planning:
 - Determine and justify priority projects/personnel to return to campus.
 - Personnel list + projects should be put into a table that includes the location of each personnel and their schedules in those spaces.
 - Based on your research space, determine a physical distancing plan to minimize personnel interactions (field and on-campus studies). This includes maintaining at least six feet distancing in all work areas/115 sf/person, scheduling employees judiciously – determining a schedule/timetable that minimize people on campus and minimize overlap in the lab, transportation between buildings/areas, etc.
 - Determine a safety plan to ensure personnel are either not working alone or working with check-in system.
 - Based on your personnel plan, identify the PPE needs/sourcing for 30 days.
 - Devise sanitation plan to clean surfaces/samples/ etc. for research spaces. Some examples may include wiping down work areas and surfaces that are touched often, such as doorknobs, breakrooms, and keyboards, with disinfectant; cleaning and disinfecting individual workspaces upon arrival and before leaving.
 - i. Disinfectants are provided by Environmental Health Services. A department designee should make the request to avoid individual PIs reaching out and overwhelming the system. public_health_office@Mail.Colostate.edu

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- Identify other university resource needs including cores, machine shops, stockrooms, etc.
3. Preparing for workforce return. How will you manage your research workforce? Some considerations include: Are all of your anticipated team able to return to work (see guidance below)? What should workers do if they feel sick or have a sick family member at home?
- Recommendation from the CDC:
<https://www.agsafe.org/cms/wpcontent/uploads/2020/03/CDC-Steps-to-Prevent-the-Spread-of-COVID-19.pdf>
 - Everyone who can carry out their work duties from home has been directed to do so.
 - At least 50% of the workforce is working remotely, or shifts have been staggered so no more than 50% of the typical workforce is on-site at any one time.
 - All employees have been told not to come to work if sick (including any of the following- headache, sore throat, fever, dry cough, recent inability to taste and smell, shortness of breath, ear aches, body aches, diarrhea, fatigue, vomiting and abdominal pain).
 - All vulnerable individuals should stay at home, except when necessary to provide, support, perform, or operate necessary activities, minimum basic operations, critical government functions, necessary travel, or critical businesses, provided that vulnerable individuals cannot be compelled to perform in-person work for any business or government function, including a critical business or critical government function.
 - Make work modifications for vulnerable individuals, and to the greatest extent possible individuals who live with vulnerable individuals, who remain subject to stay at home requirements.
 - Accommodate workers with child or elder care responsibilities, or who live with a person who still needs to observe stay-at-home requirements due to underlying conditions, and workers who live in the same household as a vulnerable person to the greatest extent possible by promoting telecommuting or other remote work options, flexible schedules, or other means.
 - Make job modifications for individuals with childcare or elder care responsibilities.
 - Supervisors must provide job modifications and are prohibited from discriminating against employees who are showing symptoms of COVID-19 or who have been in contact with a known positive case of COVID-19