

When current social distancing (six feet separation and density (one person per 120 sq. ft.)) can be maintained, essential research and support functions in campus laboratories, field research and field sites can continue. Essential research and support functions are defined as follows:

Essential research

- Work that is directly related to preventing, containing or treating COVID-19
- Work that is directly related to national security
- Work that if discontinued would pose a safety hazard
- Laboratory or field work that if discontinued would result in significant data or sample loss
- Longitudinal or seasonal work that if discontinued would result in significant data or sample loss
- Clinical trials or human subject research that if discontinued would result in significant negative impact on patient care or human health
- Seasonally dependent agricultural research that would have critical implications for human and animal health as well as food security

Support functions

- Research administration, regulatory and support functions that are required by law
- Work that maintains critical animal populations
- Work that maintains critical plant populations, cell lines and other living organisms
- Work that maintains critical samples, materials and reagents
- Work that maintains critical equipment in facilities and labs, whether operational or in stand-by mode.
- Work necessary to ramp-down noncritical research after Research Level 2 is announced.

All personnel should follow previously announced guidance on social distancing/safety hygiene practices, human subjects and animal research, use of proper lab and safety equipment and use of buddy system in labs with hazardous materials. Additionally, researchers and staff who are sick, have returned from travel outside of the state, or have concerns over their personal health and safety should not come to campus.

Research and support functions that fall outside of this definition should be safely and responsibly ramped-down. Removing University chemicals, materials, equipment or animals to recreate experimental laboratories at off-site locations is not permitted.