

## LAS Laboratory Return to Work Requirements

Hello,

In order for you to consider a return to research following an anticipated move to Phase 3 of Governor Pritzker's [Restore Illinois](#) plan on or around June 1, 2020, we are requesting the following items be completed, reviewed and approved by your department and/or school, and submitted to LAS. These approval steps are necessary even if you have been performing essential research on campus previously.

- 1) A research group/PI Return to Research plan that briefly describes at a minimum:
  - How rooms and work shifts will be assigned to allow social distancing
  - A list of researchers, their emails, and procedures for contact tracing
  - Implementation plan and protocols for PPE
  - Implementation plan and protocols for disinfection and sanitation

*[\*When complete and approved, add these plans to your [Laboratory Safety Plan \(template here\)](#). These will be audited by DRS during laboratory audits.]*

- 2) A completed Laboratory Ramp-Up Checklist found here:  
<https://www.drs.illinois.edu/site-documents/LaboratoryRampUpChecklist.docx>

In addition, DRS will require this [Online Verification Form](#) be submitted to your department.

In preparation for completing the above requirements, please keep in mind:

- The health and safety of all employees and researchers is the primary concern. If work cannot be completed safely, please do not attempt to restore research operations.
- Employees who identify as unable to return to on-site work for any reason should be allowed to continue remote work.
- Stay-at-home work remains the default for anything except in-lab experimental work.
- Your department will assist with provision of necessary PPE and sanitizing supplies; you cannot work in lab without PPE.
- A DRS training session on COVID-19 Guidance for Essential Workers is required from each researcher to return to work and is a part of the Laboratory Ramp-Up Checklist.
- No meetings of any size should be conducted in person and social distancing guidelines should be followed at all times.

We strongly suggest you utilize the following sources and others in your planning. The information found in these links is highly informative and often provide additional campus resources.

[Division of Research Safety-COVID-19 Campus Safety Information](https://www.drs.illinois.edu/Page/COVID19CampusSafety)

<https://www.drs.illinois.edu/Page/COVID19CampusSafety>

[F&S COVID Response](https://fs.illinois.edu/resources/covid-response)

<https://fs.illinois.edu/resources/covid-response>

[Illinois COVID-19](https://covid19.illinois.edu/)

<https://covid19.illinois.edu/>

[Social Distancing Considerations for COVID-19](https://files.webservices.illinois.edu/9170/fs_healthandsafetyresponseteam_covid-19socialdistancing.pdf)

[https://files.webservices.illinois.edu/9170/fs\\_healthandsafetyresponseteam\\_covid-19socialdistancing.pdf](https://files.webservices.illinois.edu/9170/fs_healthandsafetyresponseteam_covid-19socialdistancing.pdf)

[Building Services-Cleaning and Disinfecting Strategies, and Service Levels](https://files.webservices.illinois.edu/9168/building_services_h.pdf)

[https://files.webservices.illinois.edu/9168/building\\_services\\_h.pdf](https://files.webservices.illinois.edu/9168/building_services_h.pdf)

[Center for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov/)

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