COVID-19: Guidance for the UD Research Community

Virtual Town Hall

Tuesday, May 19, 2020

1–2 pm
Agenda

1. Announcements
2. State of Delaware Updates
3. UD Campus Updates
4. Planning for the Future
5. Questions - Chat Function

Communications–check website frequently
https://www.udel.edu/home/coronavirus/
Middle States Self-Study

Middle States Steering Committee

DRAFT Report Available

Online Comments through June 1st

Virtual Town Hall

Today, May 19, 4-5:30 p.m.
Standards IV and VI
Graduate College Dean Search

Open to Internal Candidates only.

UDaily announcement with information on how to apply and make nominations.

Deadline is **May 22, 2020**.

Interviews will be in June, with appointment commencing July 1st.

Search Committee membership unchanged.
The Indomitable Class of 2020

Virtual Celebration

Saturday, May 30, 11 a.m.
COVID-19: Delaware

Deaths
State of Delaware
297
(2.4 per 10,000 people)

Current Hospitalization...
State of Delaware
240

Recovered
State of Delaware
3,545

Positive Cases
State of Delaware
7,869
(81.7 per 10,000 people)

Tested Negative
State of Delaware
34,589

Positive Cases (County Level)
Click on the county to view its COVID-19 tracker data

New Castle County
2,738
(46.7 per 10,000 people)

Kent County
1,219
(69.1 per 10,000 people)

Sussex County
3,861
(200.5 per 10,000 people)

Unknown County
51

Data reported 5/18/20

https://myhealthycommunity.dhss.delaware.gov/locations/state
New reported cases by day in Delaware

Data reported 5/18/20

New Positive Cases (5-Day Average)
LAST UPDATE: 05/17/2020

Data reported 5/17/20

https://myhealthycommunity.dhss.delaware.gov/locations/state/days_to_show/14/primary_trend_type/bar#trends_dashboard
State of Delaware Update

Governor announces rolling reopening; State of Emergency extended through May 31

**Phase I of Delaware’s economic reopening commences June 1st.**

**Entering Phase I is contingent on the State of Delaware’s ability to contain the COVID-19 hot spot in Sussex County, and continued positive trends in COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations statewide.**

State of Delaware–Phase 1

Vulnerable individuals **shelter in place**

Maintain **social distancing in public**

Schools and youth activities **remain closed**

Limit gatherings to **10 individuals**

**Minimize non-essential travel**- personal & business

Encourage **teleworking**

State of Delaware–Phase 1

Return to work in phases

Consider special accommodations for vulnerable populations

Elective surgeries to resume

Large venues, restaurants would have strict guidelines

Bars remain closed

Gyms to follow strict physical distancing and sanitation protocols

No visits to senior living facilities and hospitals

UD Campus Update

May 8th Updates

UD is extending its remote work plan until May 31 to align with the state’s guidance.

We are currently targeting early June to begin re-activating campus operations on a phased-in basis, starting with our research facilities.

The rate of reopening facilities will be contingent on sufficient testing, tracing and personal protective equipment to ensure the safety of our students, faculty and staff.

UD Campus Update
May 8th Updates

UD has already moved **summer classes online** and deferred or **virtualized summer events and programs** on campus.

**Campus Reopening and Fall Planning Task Force**

**UD’s Health Advisory Group**

Campus-wide committees that will consider academic and calendar aspects, research and graduate education, student life and athletics, facilities, budget and planning, and public affairs.

Planning for the Future

Principles

Safety and wellbeing of all members of the UD community

Academic mission of UD

Maintaining our staffing

Public Health Professionals and Science will drive our decision-making. “...you don't make the timeline, the virus makes the timeline” Dr. Anthony Fauci
Planning for the Future

Applicable to ALL UD research activities, regardless of site: on-campus, in the field and at partner sites, i.e. UD-owned and -operated, e.g. Winterthur, nat’l lab, agricultural sites, in schools, etc.

Phase 0
Essential Maintenance of Effort
COVID-19 PPE production

Phase 1
Time-sensitive and some field-based research
10-15%

Phase 2
Lab-based research gradual ramp-up; all field-based
~33%

Phase 3
Further gradual ramp-up; some in-person human subjects
~67%

Phase 4
New Normal
All on-campus research resumes
85-100%

Working from home whenever possible

Ideas: udresearch@udel.edu
**Phasing in Research**

Disruption of effort/data collection causes catastrophic data loss or delays

Seasonal data collection, field/agricultural work

Long-term longitudinal studies

Animal experiments where a delay would result in euthanasia or loss of a colony
Phasing in Research

Prioritize research work of

a) **tenure track** (not yet tenured) **faculty**,  
b) sponsored projects with **fixed, time-sensitive deliverables**,  
c) sponsored projects with **no ability to charge salaries/stipends for no-work**.
Phasing in Research

**Phase 1**
Time-sensitive and some field-based research

**Core facilities** resume limited operations to support time-sensitive research within this phase and prepare for increased activity in later phases.
Guidelines & Resources

The University of Delaware is working to resume research operations — with the safety and wellbeing of the community our highest priority. 

*All research work that can be performed remotely should continue remotely until further guidance is issued.* This page provides an overview of UD’s phased-in return to research, in alignment with state and University guidance. It draws from a comprehensive plan developed with broad input from a working group including representatives from colleges, institutes, core facilities, environmental health and safety, communications, maintenance and operations.

Here, UD researchers also will find required forms that must be approved and access to training materials that must be completed prior to returning to campus, field-based or site-based research. A phased-in approach is being implemented. Review the phases below. If you think you (and your...
Research Ramp-Up Phases
Click on each phase for more details. We are now reviewing PI request forms for Phase 1.

**PHASE 0**
- **CURRENT PHASE**
  - Essential Maintenance of Effort
  - COVID-19 PPE Production
  - THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

**PHASE 1**
- **ACTIVE PHASE/JUNE**
  - Time-Sensitive Research
  - Some Field-Based Research
  - 10-15% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

**PHASE 2**
- **TIMELINE TBD**
  - Lab-Based Research
  - Gradual Ramp-Up
  - All Field Based
  - ~33% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

**PHASE 3**
- **TIMELINE TBD**
  - Further Research
  - Gradual Ramp-Up
  - Some In-Person Human Subjects
  - ~67% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

**PHASE 4**
- **TIMELINE TBD**
  - New Normal
  - All On-Campus Research Resumes
  - 85-100% OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

[https://research.udel.edu/covid-19-return-to-research/](https://research.udel.edu/covid-19-return-to-research/)
Required to return to research in any phase

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[Link](https://research.udel.edu/covid-19-return-to-research/)
Process

1. PI/core facility director initiates form (on behalf of their coworkers)
2. Completed form submitted to Dept Chair
3. Review by College Dean
4. Final approval by VPR/Provost

Upon approval, access commences after all trainings are completed and no earlier than 1 week (7 calendar days) after approval.

Phase 1
Time-sensitive and some field-based research
10-15%
Planning for the Future
Guidance for PIs

If you qualify for **phase 1** access, apply by **May 27**\(^{th}\).

If you qualify for later phases, **do not apply until later**—when requested.

Complete laboratory ramp-up checklist (as applicable) prior to accessing campus.

Ensure all training and certifications are up to date for all employees and students.

Inform relevant coworkers from out of state to return and self-quarantine for 14 days before re-starting on-campus/on-site research.

Speak individually with each coworker about their situation/concerns for re-start.
Planning for the Future

Communication is Key

We are in this together; take care of one another

Individual accountability and responsibility

“See something, say something”

Resources for students—advisor, program director, chair, Graduate College

Resources for staff—supervisor, unit lead, Human Resources

Disability Support Services

Compliance Hotline
Planning for the Future
How Will Campus Be Different?

- Daily health questionnaire and on-site temperature checks
- **Cloth masks** are the norm
- Access to buildings/facilities will be highly controlled
- Common areas/shared spaces remain closed
- Lower density places greater emphasis on safety protocols
What research are you doing on COVID-19?

What innovative approaches are you taking to working remotely?

What ways are you reaching out to the K-12 community? If you are participating in Skype a Scientist or a related program, please contact us.

Email Tracey Bryant, Sr. Director for Research Communications, tbryant@udel.edu or your college communicators.
How Can You Help?

Many of our alumni, parents and friends have asked how they can help during this unprecedented time for the University community.

- Blue Hen Strong Fund
- COVID-19 Employee Emergency Relief Fund

https://www.udel.edu/alumni-friends/#help
Supporting Our Community

• Students can contact the Center for Counseling & Student Development at (302) 831-2141 or (302) 831-1001 for after-hours emergencies, or Student Health Services at (302) 831-2226.

• Faculty and staff may contact the Employee Assistance Program within Human Resources at (302) 831-2171 and/or their health care provider.
Questions

Submit your questions via the Zoom Chat