COVID-19: Guidance for the UD Research Community

Virtual Town Hall

Monday, October 12, 2020

2–3 pm

UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE

Agenda

1. State of Delaware Updates

2. UD COVID-19 Updates

3. Research Phase 3

4. UD Personnel Actions

5. Questions- Chat Function

This year's virtual event will feature eight speakers—UD students, faculty and alumni—sharing their insights on the concept of connectivity, a relevant topic as we all find ways to stay connected in a time of social distance.

A panel discussion with the speakers will allow participants to gain a greater understanding of the topics.

Seyanna Barrett, Emily Christopher Barrett Michalec, Jacquie Jordan Joshua Stout, Julie Kohn Muqtedar Khan, Quinetta Roberson

October 27th, 4 pm

Registration

State of Delaware–Phase 2

Weekly COVID-19 Update:
New Daily Cases Remain
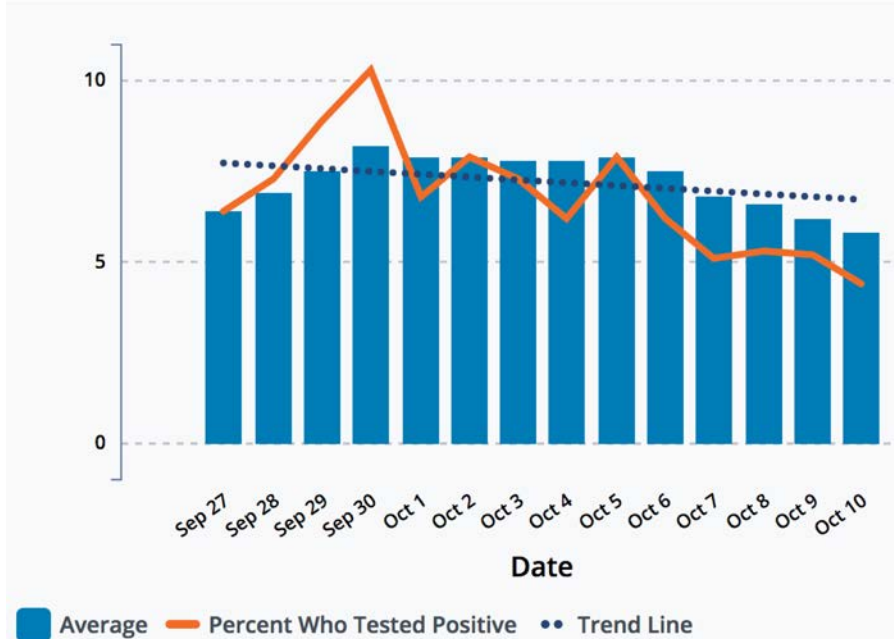Elevated; Deaths,
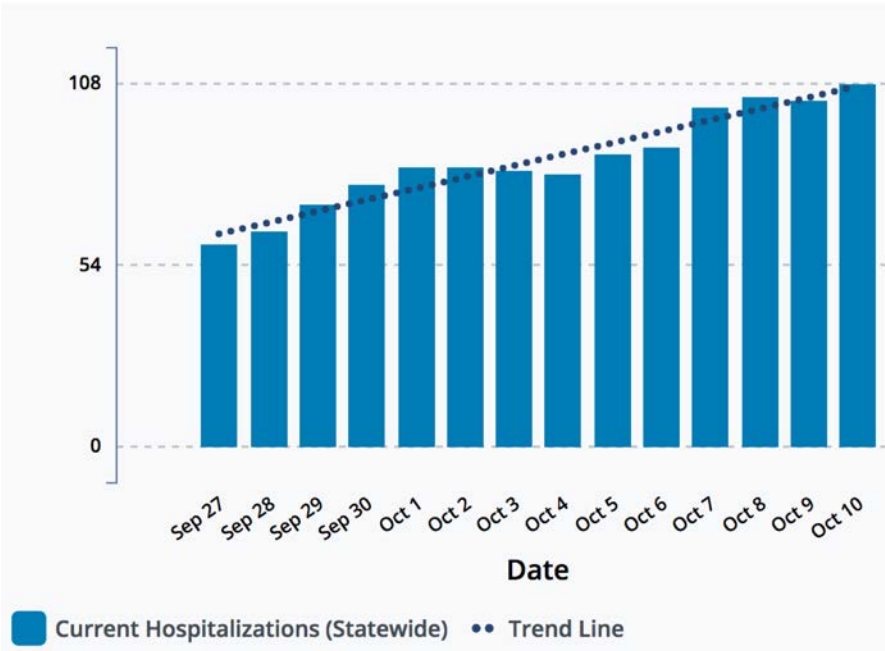Hospitalizations Also Increase

I wear a mask because: I want to help.

#MaskUpDE

de.gov/coronavirus

COVID-19: Delaware

COVID-19: Delaware

Current Hospitalizations

New Hospital Admissions (Confirmed and Suspected with COVID-19)

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

5
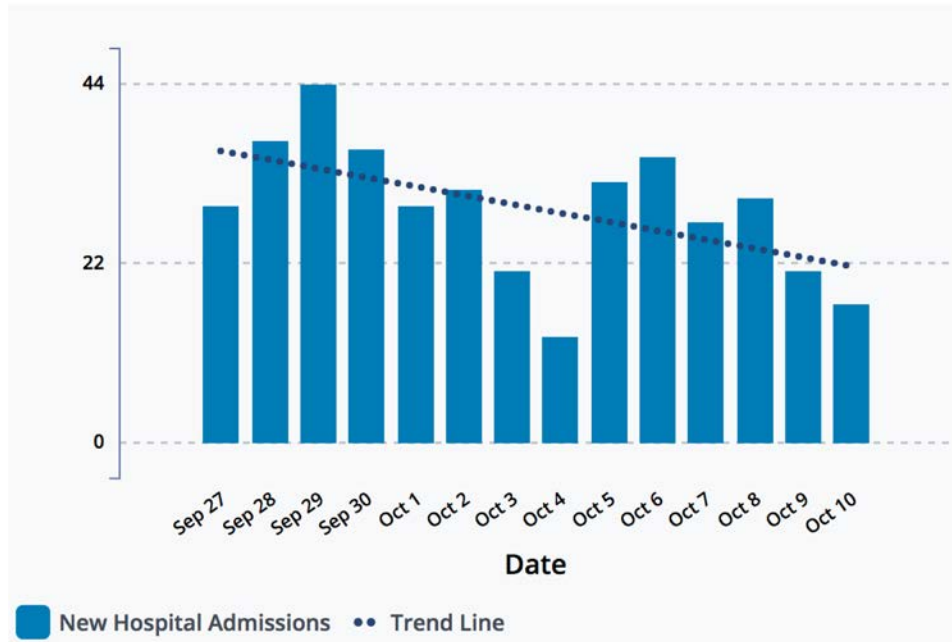
COVID-19: Delaware

Delaware's PPE ⑦ Inventory Status

Fluid Resistant Gowns and Isolation Gowns
2 Weeks+ Left (Stable)

Face Shields
2 Weeks+ Left (Stable)

Glasses and Goggles
2 Weeks+ Left (Stable)

Gloves
1-2 Weeks Left

Isolation and Procedural-Ear Loop Masks
2 Weeks+ Left (Stable)

N95 Masks
2 Weeks+ Left (Stable)

Surgical Masks
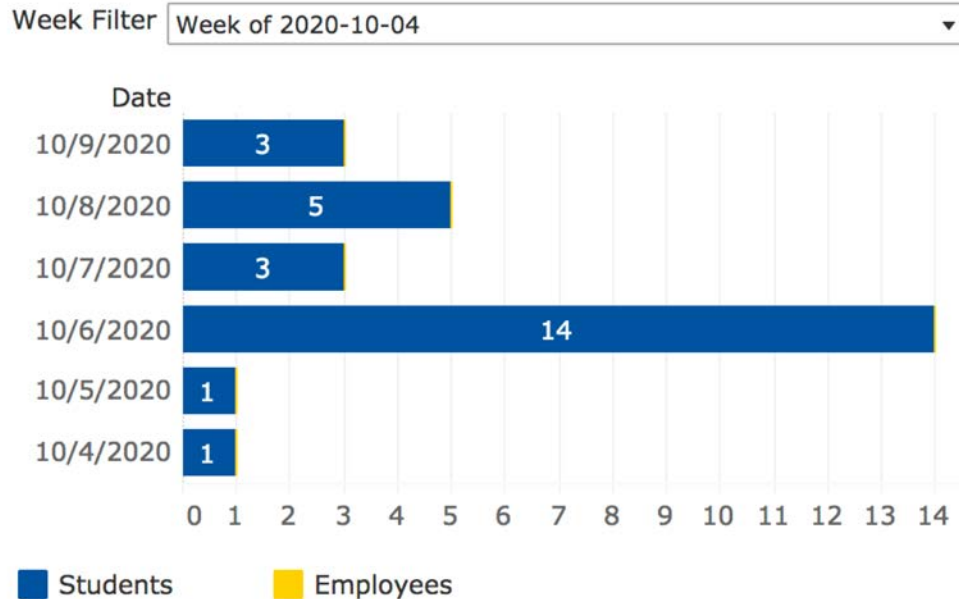2 Weeks+ Left (Stable)
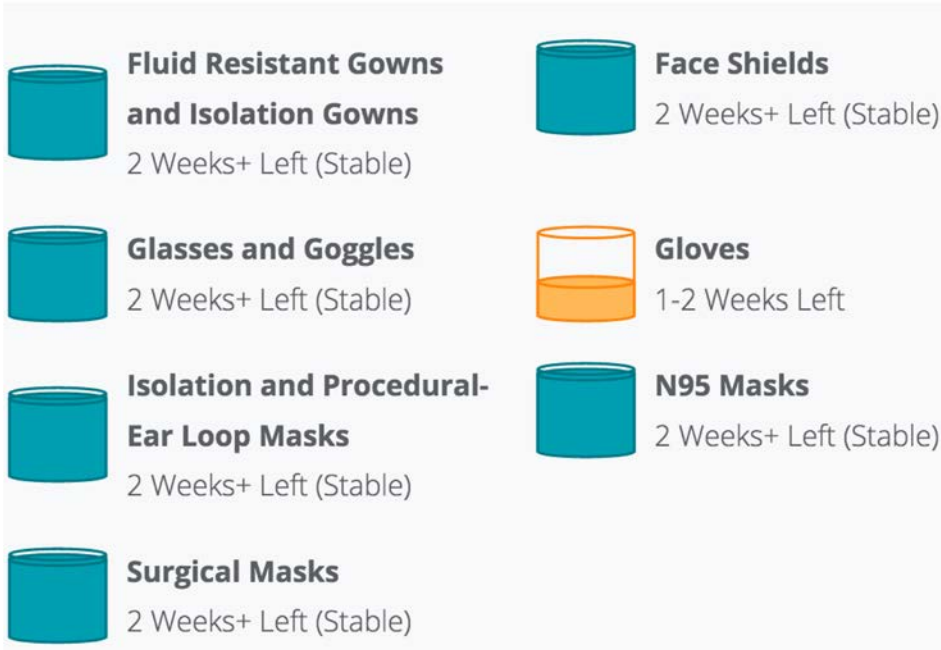
UD Environmental Health & Safety continues to monitor PPE inventories. Gloves were purchased last week.

University of Delaware COVID Dashboard

Daily New Positive Cases

Week Filter: Week of 2020-10-04

Date	Students	Employees
10/9/2020	3	
10/8/2020	5	
10/7/2020	3	
10/6/2020	14	
10/5/2020	1	
10/4/2020	1	

■ Students   ■ Employees

On-campus Surveillance Testing

Day	Date	# tested	Positives	Positivity Rate
Wed	9/3/20	73	0	0%
Mon	9/7/20	258	11	4.26%
Wed	9/9/20	424	15	3.54%
Mon	9/14/20	520	9	1.73%
Wed	9/16/20	754	14	1.86%
Mon	9/21/20	575	8	1.39%
Wed	9/23/20	709	10	1.41%
Mon	9/28/20	759	22	2.90%
Mon	10/5/20	487	6	1.23%
Wed	10/7/20	560	2	0.36%

UD COVID-19 Dashboard

COVID Positive Contact Form

Students, Faculty and Staff may use this form to document a positive case of COVID-19. Contact tracing is vital to the health and safety of the UD community. Please be forthright and truthful in sharing your whereabouts and interactions. Students who use this form to self-report **will not be** penalized for engaging in risky behaviors.

If you are a student and have questions, contact Student Health Services at (302) 831-2226.
If you are a faculty or staff member, contact HR at (302) 831-2171.
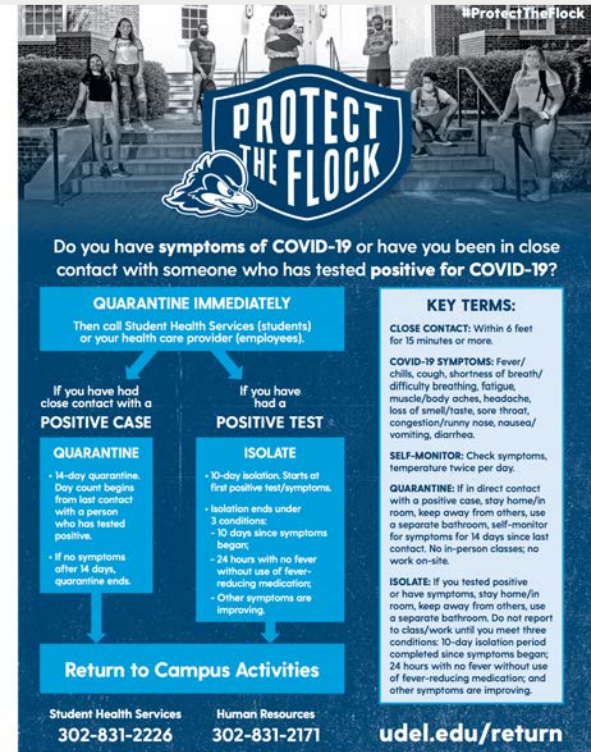
Contact Tracing

What is contact tracing? Interview of COVID+ or presumptive positive individuals to identify close contacts (6 feet; 15 minutes) to help slow the spread of the virus.

Who does the contact tracing? Delaware Division of Public Health with support from UD.

What should I do if contacted? If you receive a call from (302) 446-4262, or caller ID says "DE PUBLICHEALTH," answer and cooperate.

The COVID Alert DE app — launched by the Delaware Division of Public Health and in partnership with the University of Delaware — uses Bluetooth technology to alert users if they have been in close contact (less than 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.

COVID Alert DE — available on the App Store and Google Play

PI Return to Campus and Outreach Forms

Return to Research Checklists

Employee, Student and Visitor Training

UD Workplace Guidelines

Home Health Screening

Campus Reopening and Planning

Research Ramp-Up Phases

Click on each phase for more details. We are now reviewing PI request forms for Phase 3. If you already have campus access and are bringing additional coworkers on-site and/or accessing additional space you must submit a new Phase 3 request.

▶ PHASE 0	▶ PHASE 1	▶ PHASE 2	▶ PHASE 3	▶ PHASE 4
BEGINNING PHASE	**TIMELINE JUNE**	**TIMELINE JUNE-JULY**	**ACTIVE AUGUST**	**TIMELINE TBD**
• Essential Maintenance of Effort • COVID-19 PPE Production THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY	• Time-Sensitive Research • Some Field-Based Research **10-15%** OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY	• Lab-Based Research Gradual Ramp-Up • All Field Based • Limited Human Subjects Work • Studio Activities: Visual, Art, Design **~33%** OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY	• Further Research Gradual Ramp-Up • Some In-Person Human Subjects **~67%** OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY	• New Normal • All On-Campus Research Resumes **85-100%** OF THE RESEARCH COMMUNITY

https://research.udel.edu/covid-19-return-to-research/

Visitors to Research Facilities

Research collaborators and service vendors may be permitted to visit UD facilities to perform time-sensitive work with a specific investigator who serves as their host during the visit.

The UD host researcher submits a request for access for the visitor using the Research Office's Phase 3 Return to Campus form.

Once approved and before coming to campus, the visitor must complete COVID-19 training.

The visitor also must complete and pass the daily health screening prior to arrival on campus. The host must confirm the status of the daily health screening (green check) each day.

The visitor must follow UD health and safety protocols: wear a face mask, maintain at least 6 feet distance and wash hands frequently.

Updates to Research Travel Guidance

UD-sponsored travel was suspended in March 2020 and remains suspended with very few exceptions. Travel requests in support of research will be considered on a case-by-case basis when no remote alternative is available. Travel to conferences remains suspended.

Approval is required when UD employees and students need to use shared/public transportation (e.g., Uber/Lyft, buses, trains, planes) and/or overnight accommodations. Day trips using one's own vehicle are not included.

Researchers should use this application form.

Researchers who are approved to travel will receive specific guidance about registering the travel, recommended PPE, and other health and safety measures.

Personnel Actions

Voluntary Retirement Program 138 employees of 359 eligible

Voluntary Reductions in Time

Campus-wide Reductions in Time (aka furloughs)
All non-unionized employees, 5% (9 days) **regardless of funding source**
  6 days for most employees: Nov. 23-25; Dec. 21-23
  3 days between Nov. 1–June 30. Coordinate with your supervisor

Unfortunately, the reduction in time and salary may need to be greater than 5% in some units, depending on unit-specific cost-reduction goals, activity levels and strategic planning.

Some units have larger Reductions in Time
Research Office, 7.5% (13 days)

Personnel Actions

Reductions in Effort (layoffs)

Campus-wide Reductions in Time (furloughs)
Do not apply to students, postdoctoral fellows or employees on H1-B visas.
Applies to postdoctoral researchers.

UPDATED GUIDANCE
Regardless of funding source (includes grants, contracts, federal, state)
    Equity
    Compliance
    Effort Certification

Personnel Actions

Q: My sponsored project has defined deliverables and timelines that will be impacted if employees are required to take days off. Requiring time off will impact project success. Is this a violation of the signed agreement?

A: Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, sponsors have provided guidance adding flexibility with respect to deadlines, deliverables, carry-over funding and no-cost extensions. You should consult published sponsor guidance or your program manager. In cases in which no flexibility is afforded, consult with your unit's contract and grants specialist in the Research Office.

Example of Sponsor Guidance

MEMORANDUM FOR OFFICE OF SCIENCE APPLICANTS AND AWARDEES
FROM: CHRIS FALL, DIRECTOR (Sept. 30, 2020)
OFFICE OF SCIENCE (DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY)
SUBJECT: Response to Delayed Progress in Research Caused by COVID-19

The Office of Science is **committed to maximum flexibility** in administering awards, **recognizing potential delays in research** caused by impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Investigators will not be penalized for such delays.

Progress reports will be read in light of the real disruptions from the pandemic.

With regard to future applications, merit reviewers will be reminded that SC recognizes the real and potential delays when evaluating new and renewal proposals.

Personnel Actions

Q: Can I re-budget the funds that are not expended because of the salary reductions?

A: Yes, in most cases the amount to be re-budgeted does not require sponsor prior approval. However, you should check with your assigned contract and grant specialist if you are unsure.

Q: Do the salary reductions apply to new employees hired after the announced reductions?

A: Yes, new employees will be subject to reduction in time.

Supporting Our Community

- Students can contact the <u>Center for Counseling & Student Development</u> at (302) 831-2141 or (302) 831-1001 for after-hours emergencies, or <u>Student Health Services</u> 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

Next Town Hall
Monday, October 26th

2–3 pm
(Reminder: New Time)

udresearch@udel.edu