

Laboratory-Based Research: Phase 4

The following guidelines are effective starting June 1, 2021. They are intended to provide guidance consistent with the resumption of most on-campus research activity in laboratories, but in no case should they be interpreted to permit behaviors that violate our overarching health and safety protocols. Those protocols and these guidelines will continue to be revised as necessary.

A. Who may be on campus for laboratory research?

1. As we enter the “less-limited” access level, students, staff, and faculty members may work in person at their discretion, but they are still encouraged to consider remote work to the extent that format is consistent with performance of their research activities. Please note that student employees also need to observe the policies of the Student Employment Office.
2. Individuals with legitimate academic or business affiliations with Dartmouth (e.g., NetID holders), are allowed in Dartmouth buildings without separate registration or approval, even if their titles may suggest that their status is that of a visitor (see next point).
3. Visitors are individuals without an academic or business affiliation with Dartmouth. Such visitors should be registered (an updated link will be provided when available).
4. Individuals who have traveled should be mindful of remaining quarantine or testing requirements upon their return (an updated link will be provided when available).

B. Requirements while on campus.

1. All individuals on campus for laboratory research must continue to comply with all Dartmouth policies and requirements. These are likely to change frequently in the coming months. Please monitor communications from the COVID-19 Task Force and refer to the Dartmouth Together website for current requirements (linked [here](#)).

C. Requirements in the laboratory

1. Everyone should strive to be as far as reasonably achievable (AFARA), i.e., to maintain 6-foot distancing where possible. At a minimum, individuals should coordinate to ensure they can maintain at least 3-foot spacing to others working in the lab, consistent with our growing understanding of risk factors in disease transmission.
2. There is no longer a requirement to maintain a lab access calendar, although it is recommended that researchers track their presence in case contact tracing becomes necessary.
3. There is also no longer a requirement to schedule routine disinfection of frequently touched surfaces within the laboratory, beyond those dictated by standard hygiene considerations.
4. Laboratories are no longer required to maintain or update lab-specific hygiene or safety plans.
5. To the extent possible, please continue to use online communication to supplement in-person “buddy systems.”