



## Engineering Laboratory Protocol For Phase 2 Research Operations

The Samueli School of Engineering has set the following safety practices and policies that must be instituted for all persons entering research spaces during Phase 2.

### **General Guidelines:**

1. Anyone experiencing cold/flu symptoms or coming in contact with a sick person must not come to lab, must inform their PI, and must self-quarantine at home for at least 14 days.
2. Each laboratory must have an easily accessible online schedule for all lab members with assigned and staggered cleaning, before and after shifts, and with a time cushion to avoid overlap. The weekly schedule must be printed and posted outside each laboratory.
3. Researchers must be at least 6 feet apart and wear a face covering at all times in any space where they may encounter others; exceptions to the face covering requirement can exist in labs on a case-by-case analysis done by the PI for certain circumstances such as contamination of face covering during the course of the research or alternate personal protective equipment used.
4. Only one person at a time may occupy any enclosed space less than 250 sq ft. Occupancy of larger spaces will be determined by the PI following safe distancing practices for that space.
5. Non-experimental research or research not requiring specific, on-campus computers (specialized software needs, data analysis, HPC access) must continue to be done remotely.
6. Volunteers and visitors should not be present in UCI research labs/facilities at any time; undergraduate student presence should be limited.
7. One-on-one discussions should occur virtually, except when truly necessary to conducting research or maintaining lab safety. All group research meetings must be done virtually and not in person.
8. Personal safety also needs to be considered at this time, especially when working in the lab alone. Hazardous procedures should not be carried out when working alone. A Working Alone Reference Guide is available from EH&S.
9. Do not restart research that generates large volumes of hazardous waste and/or necessarily involves chemical, biological, radiation or other hazards without first consulting with Engineering EH&S: Christian Ritter, [critter@uci.edu](mailto:critter@uci.edu), 949-824-6085

### **Research Lab/Office Protocols:**

1. Researchers will wash their hands with soap/sanitizer upon entering and before leaving the lab or office.
2. All surfaces must be wiped down by the researcher with an approved disinfectant (e.g., 70% ethanol/IPA, sodium hypochlorite) before and after use. Best practices state to let the disinfectant sit for an extended period of time before wiping away.
3. To avoid accidental contact, distancing must be adhered to for occupation of a bench, hood, or bay. Spacing must be marked with vinyl tape for high-use areas.
4. All researchers will wear gloves, safety glasses, and a face mask at all times when working in the lab and when opening delivered packages.
5. Researchers will put on fresh gloves or sanitize their gloves before handling common reagent bottles, laboratory equipment, and cabinet handles. Researchers will wipe down or spray door handles with disinfectant after use.
6. Each researcher, within reason, will have their own set of any tools that are used frequently.
7. Contact with other labs should be made via phone or electronic means. Transfer of items should be arranged by leaving them in the hallway rather than handing them over in person. Use of other labs' equipment and shared facility should be pre-arranged in order to avoid accidental contact.

**Report Infractions Anonymously Here:** <https://forms.gle/dRoH8Rs3TvaUMmrQA>