



May 29, 2020

Dear Colleagues:

To help us prepare for a safe return to research activities on the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) campus, the COVID-19 Research Advisory Task Force, appointed by Interim President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS, is sharing with you information that pertains to the preclinical laboratory-based research planned for Phase 1 ("Limited Presence" phase) of our return to laboratories. We anticipate Phase 1 to be initiated in June. Guidelines for research involving human subjects will be issued in the near future.

We emphasize that the success of this program depends on compliance by all of us, on the self-monitoring of our health and exposure risks, and on the candid attestation of our health status.

As previously announced by Dr. Jarrell, we are now in Phase 0 ("Preparation" phase). Please make use of this time to implement the steps outlined in the documents that are linked to below:

- *Preparing for Phase 1: A Primer*. A brief summary of the main steps you should take before returning to campus to conduct research.
- Instructions for registering your personnel in the mandatory SAFE on Campus REDCap monitoring system. Registration opens Monday, June 1.
- *Laboratory Re-Occupancy Planning Form*. After completing this form, submit it to your chair/director for approval. They will then forward it to your dean's office.
- A sample version of the above form.

In addition, UMB's Office of Environmental Health and Safety has prepared the following resources:

- [Mandatory Training Module](#). Training available June 1.
- [COVID-19 Research Safety Plan](#). A critical resource for you and your staff.

These steps are critical for your health and the health of your employees and our community. Our ability to return to more normal research activities depends on our adherence to these steps and our ability to prevent a COVID-19 outbreak on campus.

Responsibility for implementing and monitoring these steps rests with your chair/director. Please turn to them for further guidance.

When you return to campus, please note that the Pratt, Plaza, Grand, and Lexington garages remain open 24/7 for parking accommodations, and Pratt parkers may be redirected to the Grand Garage in the event the garage fills. Parking and Transportation Services will monitor garage occupancy levels daily and re-open additional facilities as needed.

Please contact *parkingcashier@umaryland.edu* with questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Laurie E. Locascio, PhD

*Vice President for Research, University of Maryland, and
Chair, UMB Research Advisory Task Force*

Margaret M. McCarthy, PhD

*Prof. & Chair, Dept. of Pharmacology, University of Md. School of
Medicine, and
Deputy Chair, UMB Research Advisory Task Force*