



July 27, 2020

Dear UMB Research Community,

As announced two weeks ago, today we are transitioning to Phase 2 for Laboratory-Based Research. Given the extremely low levels of positive COVID-19 cases in the University of Maryland, Baltimore (UMB) research community, no evidence of any transmission within our research community, and our close monitoring of the situation in our community and in our health care system, we feel confident that the working environment is safe to proceed to Phase 2.

In Phase 2, laboratories and other research spaces will be allowed to function at 50 percent occupancy, provided it is possible to maintain the space requirements of at least 150 square feet per person. As with Phase 1, all of the necessary health and safety guidelines must continue to be strictly followed. These include requirements for physical distancing, face coverings, hand washing, and disinfecting spaces. In addition, everyone coming to campus must complete the daily symptom screening survey (SAFE on Campus). No one should come to work if they are feeling sick.

As always, we are carefully monitoring the ever-changing public health situation. We are consulting with members of the COVID-19 Research Advisory Task Force, and with other health experts, to adjust our health and safety practices in light of the situation in our region. If the need arises, we may impose additional safety practices, or revert to Phase 1. These discussions, and input from the University community, will guide our recommendations to Interim President Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS.

The health and safety of our entire campus community is most important as we resume our important research activities.

Sincerely,

Laurie E. Locascio, PhD

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This note was authorized for distribution to the University of Maryland, Baltimore community by the Office of the President.