



August 27, 2020

*This weekly research update is being sent to all active investigators, including those engaged in human research, and research administrators across the three University of Michigan campuses. Please share this information with your colleagues.*

Dear faculty and research staff,

Please review the items below for important information regarding the University of Michigan's strategic plans to safely continue research and scholarship across its three campuses. More information is available on the [U-M research re-engagement webpage](#).

#### **COVID-related research metrics**

- Researchers to date who have displayed symptoms and tested **positive** for COVID-19: 5 (4 Ann Arbor, 1 Dearborn)
  - Zero researchers tested positive for COVID-19 this past week.
- Researchers to date who have displayed symptoms (or were tested as part of contact tracing) and tested **negative** for COVID-19: 15
- If you see or feel someone is not following appropriate guidance for maintaining a research space, we encourage constructive feedback between personnel. You can also report the issue anonymously through the [U-M Compliance Hotline](#).

#### **COVID-19 data dashboard**

U-M created a [new data dashboard](#) to provide regular updates to the community about the state of COVID-19 on the Ann Arbor campus. The dashboard includes cumulative data about the total number of tests and the total number of cases, information about positivity rates and isolation numbers since March 8. Developed by faculty and staff in the School of Public Health and Information and Technology Services, the dashboard provides information on data pulled from University Health Service and Occupational Health Services.

#### **ResponsiBLUE health screening tool**

The university transitioned this week from its daily Healthscreen survey to [ResponsiBLUE](#) – an accessible, mobile-friendly website that aims to help keep community members healthy and

reduce the spread of COVID-19. For ResponsiBLUE and all related efforts to be effective, every one of us needs to be committed to practicing a culture of care for one another.

All faculty, staff and students entering U-M buildings are required to use ResponsiBLUE to meet state regulatory requirements for health screening. Learn more about the screening tool, including an updated list of frequently asked questions, on the [Information and Technology Services website](#).

### **Undergraduate research activity**

Only senior students (individuals entering their senior year of coursework) who already have experience working with the same research team (laboratory, human, field and studio research) can resume in-person research and scholarship at this time. Undergraduates at any year of study are welcome and encouraged to join research teams if their work can be done remotely. Research leadership will reassess this policy on October 1 to determine whether more undergraduates can safely resume in-person research and scholarship.

Please note that undergraduate students:

- Are subject to the same building capacity limits as other researchers
- Must participate in the same symptom monitoring as other researchers
- Must complete the EHS return-to-research training module
- May not be left alone in research spaces
- May not be compelled by principal investigators to resume research and scholarship

### **Human research updates**

- Studies approved for activation under **Tier 0, Tier 1 and Tier 2** can safely resume in-person human research.
- 1,248 human research activation protocols have already been approved. 35 protocols are in the review process, and PIs should soon receive updates regarding their submissions.

Stay safe and healthy, and research onward.

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