GW RESEARCH
REOPENING PLANNING
COVID-19
FALL 2020

PLANNING GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Safety and care
of our students,
faculty and staff.

Limiting the
spread of the
virus in our
community.

Maintaining
academic and
research excellence.

OVERALL PLANNING UPDATES

➢ **Fall 2020 -** GW will be open and operating to the fullest extent that is safely possible this fall, with the goal of in-person instruction and a residential academic experience, planned to begin Aug. 31 for most students

➢ **Semester Changes –** virtual after Thanksgiving

➢ **Planning Guided By**
  ❑ Expertise of our medical and public health faculty and our safety and security experts
  ❑ Broad collaboration with academic leadership, faculty representatives, students, and staff

➢ **Adherence to Government Requirements and Guidance**
  ❑ DC, VA
  ❑ CDC
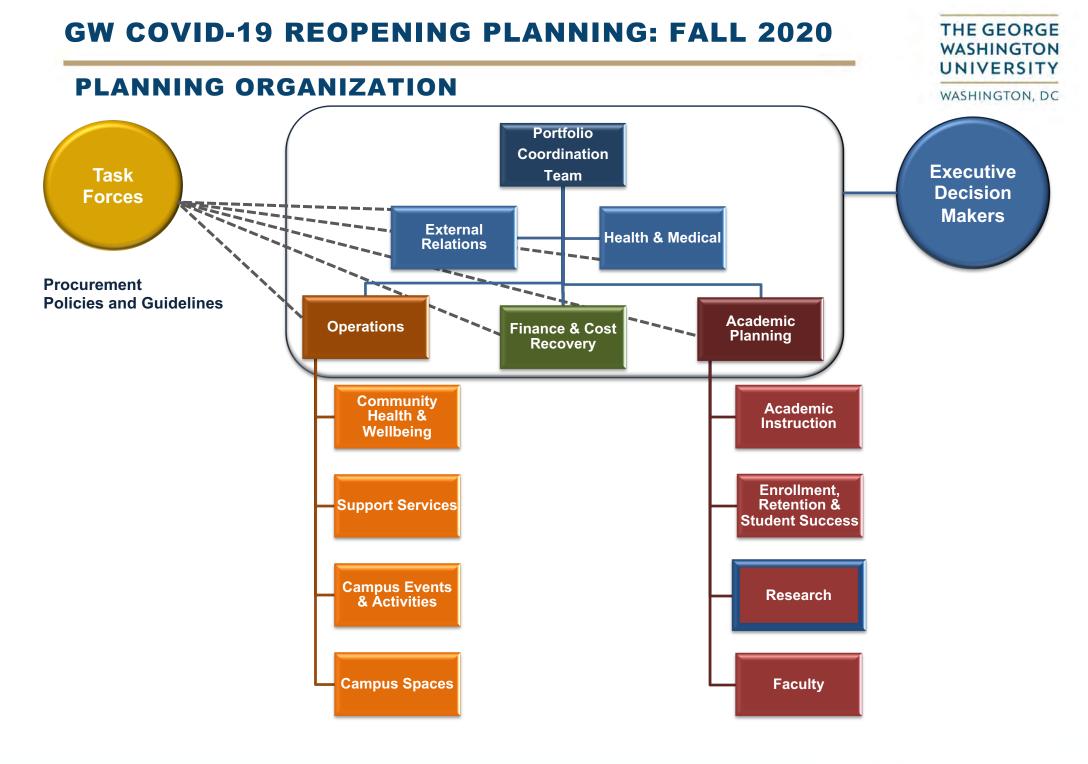 ❑ Various other guidance organizations

ACADEMIC PLANNING UPDATES

➢ **Academic Instruction**

- ❑ Faculty and Student Focus Groups Conducted
- ❑ Classroom "Redesigns" for Social Distancing
- ❑ Course Adjustments to support both in-person and virtual access
- ❑ Additional Course Design Training and Support

➢ **Faculty Interim Guidance – distributed on June 11**

➢ **Enrollment – Aggressive Management**

➢ **Research – Phased Approach**

Virtual learning capabilities will be required for EVERY class, even if the primary mode of instruction is face-to-face, to accommodate the need for ANY student or faculty member to continue course work remotely, at any time

LIBRARY STATUS AND REOPENING PLANNING

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➢ **Most Library Services have remained available virtually**

❑ Details on GW Libraries Website (https://library.gwu.edu)

❑ Leveraged existing and new digital resources

❑ WRLC – providing digital versions of requests wherever possible

❑ Contact us if you need support

➢ **Print Circulation – Was Paused**

❑ June 8 – Deliveries of print items began

❑ Looking to add a curbside pickup service when campus safety and security supports users coming to campus

➢ **Gelman Building Access -** Currently working on a timeline for phased reopening

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How can we continue to move forward with our research projects?

➢ **Interim Research Reopen Plan – Release 1 (May 29)**

➢ **Established 4 Guiding Principles**

❑ Emotional and physical health and safety of faculty, staff, and students as a top priority

❑ All schools / units will follow ALL government directives and coordinate plans to reopen with those sharing adjacent space as well as

❑ GW Reopen Planning Groups will provide guidance and oversight

❑ The GW Research "Re-Opening" will be through a planned, orderly, transparent and phased process

RESEARCH PHASED APPROACH – RELEASE 1

Criteria / Phases	Phase 0 Current State	Phase 1 Limited ReOpen	Phase 2 Expanded ReOpen	Phase 3 All Research Programs
Date	NOW	June 8, 2020	TBD, no earlier than June 22	TBD
Personnel	Essential	12-25% Density	Density based on GW & DC/FED Guidance	100%
Facilities	CORE – limited ops	CORE – limited capacity and ops	ALL	ALL
Access	Essential GWid Badges required	GWid	GWid	GWid
Safety	Social Distancing, Personal Hygiene, Decontamination, PPE			
Safety Violations	Reported to PI or Department Chair.			
Types of Research				
Chemical or Radiological Hazards	With proper approval			ALL
Human Subjects	If consistent w/ GW, DC/FED Guidelines	Restarted if consistent w/ GW, DC/FED Guidelines		ALL
Priorities				
Priorities	University	Done by Schools		NA
COVID	X	X	X	X
Grad Students		Close to Completion	X	X
Post Docs		Close to Completion	X	X
Grants expiring <4 months		X	X	X
Inflexible Sponsors		X	X	X
UG Students		Only by exception		X

RAMPING UP TO 25% CAPACITY

➢ **Phase I allows for limited return to campus of up to 25% density at any one time in a given space.**

☐ This may not directly correlate to a team's overall size and is dictated by the size of the space.

☐ Social distancing protocols must be followed at all times.

☐ In shared spaces, the teams using the space must work together to schedule the space and to ensure that density does not exceed 25%.

☐ By staggering shifts and limiting time on campus to only those activities that must be completed on campus (e.g. lab experiments), teams may allow most of their members to return in a limited capacity.

☐ PIs and project leads are responsible for determining who can safely return and how to structure on-campus research activities.

➢ **Managed at the School Level**

➢ **Determination of Phase 1 Personnel**
- ❑ Each PI/Unit Head will identify who will return to work, based on criteria
- ❑ Other considerations
  - ▸ Team members that volunteer
  - ▸ Undergrads are not allowed in Phase 1; there is an exception process
  - ▸ Expertise needed to operate facilities
  - ▸ Attempt to allow each lab member once a week access

➢ **Scheduling and Coordinating of Work Hours**
- ❑ Each laboratory, facility, and team should develop a calendar system of work shifts
- ❑ Shifts may range from 2-12 hours
- ❑ Team members need to communicate to coordinate
- ❑ Time in laboratory to be used for bench time only
- ❑ Team member benches should not be shared when possible; sharing requires proper decontamination after each use

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➤ Graduate Students and Postdocs

❑ <u>Returning to on-campus research activities is entirely voluntary.</u>

❑ No one should be required to return to campus if they are uncomfortable doing so.

❑ PIs should not make assumptions about the ability or interest of their students and postdocs to return. Cannot make assumptions about someone's risk or tolerance of risk by their age.

❑ The first responsibility of Graduate Research Assistants (GRAs) is to their own studies, so for the purposes of research planning, GRAs should be considered as students first, and as employees second.

❑ Prioritizing the voluntary return of graduate students and postdocs that are nearing the end of their degrees/terms of appointment.

❑ Any student feeling unwelcome pressure to return should report this to their supervisor or their research dean.

➤ Undergraduates and High School Students

❑ Undergraduates and high school students will not be allowed in laboratories until the third phase.

❑ Requests for exceptions must be approved by the school's research dean and forwarded to askovpr@gwu.edu for review and final approval.

➢**No one should be on site if they feel ill**

➢**Required:**

❑6 foot social distancing

❑Face Masks at all times while on campus

❑PI must ensure access to PPE and adequate cleaning supplies

❑Labs and core facilities may require additional PPE and cleaning protocols

❑File any possible COVID-19 contacts or confirmed cases using the GW Form

❑GW's live answer line is available 9-5 at 1-855-GWU-INFO (855-498-4636).

❑Consequences of not following health and safety protocols

❑All Faculty, staff and students must adhere to GW policies regarding COVID-19
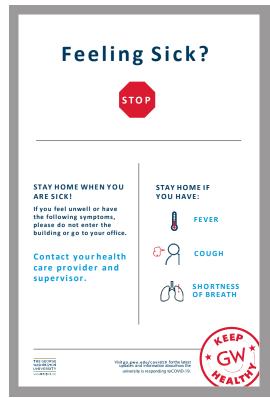
➢**Shared Spaces – GW Wide Signage Campaign***

❑Similar look and feel across campus (some buildings have earlier versions of signs)

❑Signs are being added to Research Buildings Common Spaces

* Phase 1 will include signs; floor decals and mirror clings are being ordered and installed when available

SIGN CAMPAIGN EXAMPLES

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In compliance with the Mayor's order...

You are responsible for keeping our community safe!

A mask or face covering is required.

Keep six (6) feet away from anyone who is not a part of your household.

TISSUE
ELBOW

Cough or sneeze away from other people and into a tissue or your elbow/sleeve.

Do not shake hands or engage in any other unnecessary physical contact.

Do not enter if you are exhibiting a symptom of any transmissible infectious disease such as a cough, fever, and runny nose or have a confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis.

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Visit go.gwu.edu/covid19 for the latest updates and information about how the university is responding to COVID-19.

KEEP GW HEALTHY

Feeling Sick?

STOP

STAY HOME WHEN YOU ARE SICK!

If you feel unwell or have the following symptoms, please do not enter the building or go to your office.

Contact your health care provider and supervisor.

STAY HOME IF YOU HAVE:

FEVER

COUGH

SHORTNESS OF BREATH

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KEEP GW HEALTHY

Elevator Occupancy is [2]

Maintain 6 FEET (2 METERS) Distance

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KEEP GW HEALTHY

STOP

Wait Here

Move Forward as Space Allows

Keep to the Right

Maintain Social Distance and Wear Face Cover or Mask

6 FEET
2 METERS

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➤ Further Planning and Next Steps

❑ Collecting feedback from the GW research community

❑ Feedback and Phase 1 experience will further inform planning and subsequent phases

❑ Future ramp up or ramp down of on-campus research activity will be guided by the state of the pandemic, district and state guidelines, and public health expertise

❑ Continue to share input by emailing askovpr@gwu.edu

➤ Stay Up-To-Date

❑ **COVID-19 Campus Advisories**
go.gwu.edu/covid19

❑ **Fall Planning Website**
go.gwu.edu/fallplanning

❑ **COVID-19 Impacts on Research**
sponsoredprojects.gwu.edu/covid-19

❑ **SMHS COVID-19 Website**
smhs.gwu.edu/covid-19