

A Phased Scale Up

Given the continued threat of community spread of COVID-19, activity will resume/expand in phases. New outbreaks are possible at any time and may require a contraction of activity. The Chancellor, in adherence with state and local directives and in consultation with university leaders, epidemiologists, and infectious disease experts, will determine when conditions require or permit transitioning from one phase to another. Research, scholarship and creative activity at UC San Diego will therefore be governed by campus-identified phases, with distinct and risk-appropriate restrictions on the density of on-site personnel, requirements for use of personal protective equipment (PPE) such as face coverings, and frequency of disinfection of work spaces and commonly touched surfaces such as door knobs and light switches.

The Red Phase is characterized by a “stay-at-home” order from government officials, and campus-mandated remote work. Only essential activity is permitted on campus (or at any UC San Diego research site) during this phase. PPE, social distancing, and sanitization protocols are required.

The Orange Phase is characterized by a modest increase in on-site activity (including field research, community research, and clinical sites). “Stay at home” orders may remain in place; remote work is required for those whose work can be conducted remotely. In general, approximately 25% of research personnel will be on-site at any time. PPE, social distancing, and sanitization protocols are required.

The Yellow Phase is characterized by a more significant increase in on-site and field activity of normal activity. In general, approximately 50% of research personnel will be on-site at any time; remote work is recommended for those whose work can be conducted remotely. PPE, social distancing and sanitization protocols are required.

The Green Phase is characterized by a return to normal operations, subject to campus restrictions.

Figure 1: Campus Phases

Campus PHASE				
	RED Shelter-at-home, “essential activity only” (approximately 15%)	ORANGE On-site research at low density with PPE and distancing (approximately 25%) <i>(updated October 16, 2020)</i>	YELLOW On-site research at medium density with PPE and distancing (approximately 50%) MODIFIED, APRIL 1, 2021	GREEN return to full operations (some restrictions may remain)
PPE, physical distancing, sanitation	Required			TBD
Work that can be done remotely continues remotely	Required			TBD
Option for remote work by vulnerable groups ¹	Required	Strongly Recommended	Recommended	Not required
DENSITY restriction for on-campus research, rehearsal, etc. (with PPE, distancing, safety & sanitation per EHS)	Only essential personnel allowed	wet labs: 2 persons/aisle other spaces: no more than 1 person per 150 sq ft	All spaces: minimum of 6 foot distance between individuals All personnel on approved Ramp Up plans, regardless of Phase assignment, may access facilities (within 50% cap) To increase access in labs with limited personnel, allow 1 person per 150 sq ft (rather than 50% of group)	None
Chair/Dir./Dean actions required	Review/Approval of on-site research plans, exception requests	Review/Approval of research plans and exceptions; ensure coordination of floor/adjoining facilities’ plans; ensure compliance with plans	Review/Approval of new research plans and exceptions; ensure coordination of floor/adjoining facilities’ plans; ensure compliance with plans	As per usual practice
PI actions required	Submission of on-site & remote site plans	Review of guidelines, prep and submission of Research Activity Ramp-up; ensure compliance with plans	Review of guidelines, prep and submission of Research Activity Ramp-up; ensure compliance with plans	None
Researcher/staff actions required	Remote work plans, contact information to PI/supervisor	PPE, safety, hygiene training (if required)	PPE, safety, hygiene training (if required)	None
TRIGGER Campus level determination with public health considerations (state and local)	Shelter-at-home order instituted by Governor or by County	From RED: state shelter-at-home order may be eased; campus-defined low-density research with health & safety standards CAN BE REVERSED	From ORANGE: state or local shelter-at-home order may be lifted; campus further relaxes density restrictions with campus-defined health & safety standards CAN BE REVERSED	Normal functions resume (some restrictions may remain) CAN BE REVERSED