

Guidelines for Research Activities during the COVID-19 Pandemic

Updated October 2021

| Step | Guidance from PHO | Meetings (e.g. graduate committee) | Events (e.g. workshops, conferences) | Lab work | Field work | Class-based research | Human participants** See REB Bulletin #5 | Research Travel** see note below |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|---|
| Normal, Non Covid requirements | N/A | N/A | N/A | Required safety training | Project Risk Assessment to be completed and sent to safety@unbc.ca and research@unbc.ca | Project Risk Assessment (for field projects), Research Ethics Board or Animal Care and Use approval as needed. | Research Ethics Board Approval | Travel authorization BEFORE travel. |
| Step 1 Earliest = June 1 | Masks mandatory indoors, physical distancing, enhanced cleaning | Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, sanitize area before and after | Masks mandatory indoors, maximum occupancy limits, up to 10 people indoors, review Exposure Control Plan checklist | Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office | Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment, masks mandatory in vehicles, sanitize vehicles and common equipment | Masks mandatory, Safe Research plan submitted with Research Ethics application, and to Safety Office. | Safe Research Plan- guidelines can be found here . Submit with Research Ethics application and Safety Office. | Travel for research is defined as essential and intraprovincial travel allowed. Request letter from Safety Office |
| Step 2 Earliest = June 15 | Masks mandatory indoors, physical distancing, enhanced cleaning | Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, sanitize area before and after | Masks mandatory indoors, maximum occupancy limits, up to 50 people indoors, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office | Masks mandatory, maximum occupancy limits, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office | Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment, masks mandatory in vehicles, sanitize vehicles and common equipment | Masks mandatory, Safe Research plan submitted with Research Ethics application, and to Safety Office | Safe Research Plan- guidelines can be found here . Submit with Research Ethics application and Safety Office. | Travel within province unrestricted. |
| Step 3 Earliest = July 1 | Masks mandatory indoors, careful social contact, | Masks recommended, normal occupancy | Masks recommended, normal occupancy, Exposure Control Plan checklist | Masks recommended, normal occupancy, Exposure Control Plan checklist | Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment, masks | Masks recommended, Safe Research plan submitted with Research Ethics | Masks recommended for in-person interviews, Safe Research Plan required. | Travel within Canada unrestricted. |

| | enhanced cleaning | | sent to Safety Office | sent to Safety Office | recommended in vehicles | application, and to Safety Office | | |
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| Interim Measures – Aug. 25 to ?? | Masks mandatory for indoor spaces on campus except for listed exemptions. | Masks mandatory unless physical distancing, and all participants OK with no mask | Masks mandatory, vaccinations mandatory as per PHO requirements for non-essential activities , normal occupancy | Masks mandatory unless working alone, normal occupancy, Exposure Control Plan checklist sent to Safety Office | Masks mandatory in vehicles unless alone, masks mandatory in field unless physical distancing. Enhanced sanitation, Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment, | Masks mandatory, REB approvals must include Safe Research Plan, Covid safety plan attached to Project Risk Assessment for field projects. | Safe Research Plan required. Masks mandatory for in-person interviews but see below. | Travel within Canada unrestricted. Check with Safety Office regarding International travel. Consider how important your travel is relative to risks. Mandatory vaccination to board flights etc. starting Oct. 30, 2021 |
| Step 4 Earliest = Sept. 7 | Masks personal choice, normal social contact, enhanced cleaning | Masks optional, normal occupancy | Masks optional, normal occupancy | Masks optional, normal occupancy | Masks in vehicles optional | Masks optional, as in Step 1 for non-covid requirements | Masks optional | |