

NMSU Return to Research and Creativity Plan Detail (v2021-1)

NM HED PHASE	RESEARCH PLAN PHASE	EXTERNAL CONDITIONS	SUMMARY & METRICS	CRITERIA	TIME PERIOD
<p>NMHED COVID-19 Emergency Phase</p> <p>End May 31</p>	1	<p>Situation unknown and changing.</p> <p>COVID-19 hospitalizations on the rise</p> <p>Testing limited, PPE shortages</p>	<p><b>Only research deemed critical is allowed</b></p> <p>Researchers must be designated as Essential to be on site</p> <p><b>On-site research activity estimated at 5-10% of normal</b></p>	<p><b>Research facilities and field stations are closed, except where personnel are required to protect life safety and critical research infrastructure / capability (maintaining cell lines, animal health, instrumentation, etc.).</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Minimum staffing.</li> <li>• Authorization for one-time access to faculty offices to pick up books and materials shut down instrumentation, etc. delegated to deans.</li> </ul>	3/18 - 5/15/20
	2	<p>COVID-19 hospitalizations on the rise, testing limited, PPE shortages</p> <p>Initial Stay Home / Stay Healthy directive in place</p>	<p><b>On-campus access allowed to maintain research capability or prevent catastrophic disruption</b></p> <p>COVID-19 related research encouraged</p> <p>Researchers must be designated as Essential to be on site</p> <p><b>On-site research activity transitions to an estimated 15-35% of normal</b></p>	<p><b>Research access limited to social-distanced essential personnel only for priority research activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Life safety and critical research (as stated above)</li> <li>• “Critical Research”, where a delay would have significant financial impacts or catastrophically disrupt the project or protocol (including avoiding necessary euthanasia of research animals). Finish up critical projects - no “new” projects can be initiated on campus.</li> <li>• COVID-19 related rapid response activities (e.g. testing, ventilators, etc.)**</li> <li>• Prioritize core facilities that support COVID-19 research</li> <li>• <u>Field Research</u>: Prioritize seasonal data collection or experiments close to completion where a pause or deferral would lead to “catastrophic loss” of research results.</li> <li>• Undergraduates are not approved to participate.</li> </ul>	5/16 - 5/31/20
	Preparations for phase 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Necessary core facilities are staffed and operational</i></li> <li>• <i>Labs are able to purchase necessary supplies</i></li> <li>• <i>Social distancing, facial coverings, cleaning measures understood and in place (e.g. face coverings for all on-campus personnel required)</i></li> </ul>			

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<p>NMHED Phase 1 June</p> <p>and</p> <p>NMHED Phase 2 July / August</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>Local COVID-19 hospitalizations flatten, then drop</p> <p>COVID-19 testing capacity increases PPE shortages still exist</p> <p>Public health authorities &amp; Governor relax restrictions on 'essential workers'</p> <p>Local schools still closed/teaching remotely for rest of academic year</p>	<p><b>Definition of "critical" relaxed to include time-sensitive research</b></p> <p>Explore options for Arts, Humanities &amp; Social Sciences</p> <p>All research that can be done remotely should continue</p> <p>Plans for sudden return to Phase 1 in place</p> <p><b>On-site research activity transitions to an estimated 35-50% of normal</b></p>	<p><b>Prioritize deadline-driven research activities:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Seasonal data collection such as field and agricultural work, experiments close to completion, or deadline driven, <u>whose pause or deferral would lead to catastrophic delay or loss of research results.</u></li> <li>Animal experiments where a delay would result in euthanasia or loss of a colony.</li> <li>Prioritize access for graduate students and postdocs close to completing their degree/term of appointment.</li> <li>Prioritize research for completion of grants with end dates within 3 months ~July 31, 2020 (where funding agency has not granted leniency).</li> <li><u>Core facilities:</u> restart facilities based on sufficient 'customer' demand (approved projects) where work cannot be done remotely.</li> <li><u>Arts/Hum/SocSci:</u> Explore options for expanded on-campus library research options (e.g. paging services, where faculty and grad students nearing degree completion can order books and other materials to pick up from campus location). Prioritize researchers with deadlines (tenure, book contracts, degree completion, etc.) for access to Bancroft (rare books/materials) on a limited basis. Some monitored access to offices for those at critical career points (tenure, promotion).</li> <li><u>Field research:</u> expand approvals depending on what current restrictions are in the counties where field research is to be conducted.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Initial Plan (v20):</b> 6/1 - 8/16/20</p> <p><b>Current Plan (v21-1):</b> 6/1/20 - 8/1/21</p>
<p>Preparations for phase 4</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Core campus functions are staffed and operational to handle increased load</li> <li>More core facilities are staffed and operational</li> <li>Labs are able to purchase necessary supplies</li> <li>Social distancing, face mask, cleaning measures understood and in place</li> </ul>		

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	4	<p>Local COVID-19 hospitalizations continue to decrease</p> <p>COVID-19 testing capacity near maximum of needed capacity PPE more widely available</p>	<p><b>Gradually expand # of people on campus while maintaining social distancing</b></p> <p>Critical new on-campus research allowed, but labs/groups only allowed to operate at 50-70% total personnel capacity, with social distancing.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allow access to offices for faculty and grad students on application, 1-3 days/week to allow for psychological relief and family harmony. Must maintain social distancing and max occupancy per building</li> <li><u>Field Research</u> - expand on case by case basis (depending on local conditions/restrictions at field sites, travel restrictions, ability to travel safely and ability to social distance at field sites)</li> <li><u>Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences</u> Limited use of libraries, archives, labs, and collections to limited numbers of researchers using hygiene and social distancing protocols.</li> <li>Access to offices may be allowed with social distancing practices in place (see above).</li> </ul>	<p><b>Initial Plan (v20):</b> 8/17/20 - TBD</p> <p><b>Current Plan (v.21-1):</b> 8/1/2021 - TBD</p>
	5	<p>New cases of COVID-19 are low</p> <p>COVID-19 testing is at maximum needed capacity PPE availability normal</p> <p>Further relaxation of restrictions - standards for activity based on ability to social distance</p> <p>Childcare options available for parents</p>	<p><b>Continued expansion of research on campus while maintaining social distancing</b></p> <p>Critical new on-campus research allowed, but labs/groups operate at 70-90% total personnel capacity, with social distancing</p> <p>All research that can be done remotely should continue to be, including all seminars, group meetings, etc.</p> <p><b>On site research activity estimated at 70-85% of normal</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Field Research</u> - further expand on case by case basis (depending on local conditions/restrictions at field sites, travel restrictions, ability to travel safely and ability to social distance at field sites)</li> <li>Access to offices allowed generally, with attention to social distancing and cleaning</li> <li>Access to libraries, collections, studio spaces, performance spaces and labs with social distancing and disinfection of materials</li> <li>Some Human Subjects Research resumes under limited conditions with IRB approval</li> </ul>	TBD
TBD No or minimal state restrictions	6	Vaccine widely available; in combo with widespread testing and ID and isolation of new COVID-19 cases	<p><b>All types of on-site research are allowed</b></p> <p><b>On-site research activity normal at 85-100%</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Restart normal research operations, including field research and human subjects research</li> <li>Libraries, collections and museums open.</li> </ul>	TBD