

Stage 2 Restart rules
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Dear Stanford Earth faculty, students, postdocs and staff,

This week we moved into Stage 2 research restart in our recovery from COVID-19. This is great news and means a few more research staff may be added to those allowed to return to our labs in Stage 1. It remains a gradual process and things are still fairly restricted.

I want to go over **important protocols for four distinct activities**:

1. Returning to limited lab research

If you need to return to a lab and cannot complete your research otherwise, **contact your faculty advisor or PI for approval. Your PI should then contact shared lab manager Katie Dunn** with a request for reentry and building access. Lab return is for experimental faculty members and their approved Stage 1 personnel plus *limited* additions of postdocs, graduate students or staff. All researchers returning to campus must **complete the four steps** outlined on our [COVID-19 info page](#).

All but the most essential people are still expected to work from home.

2. One-time office access

If you need one-time spot access to an office to pick something up, email your DFO and chair for approval and access. You will need to complete the [COVID-19 Hygiene Training](#) and the daily [Stanford Health Check](#) **before** going in.

3. Outdoor meetings

Limited outdoor meetings are now possible for research groups and only with a faculty member present. This is intended largely for non-lab based computational and theoretical researchers. Very small groups – **no more than 4 people** – may meet outdoors observing social distancing, wearing masks, and having completed the [COVID-19 Hygiene Training](#) and the daily [Stanford Health Check](#). Approval will be granted on a case-by-case basis and must be requested at least **2 business days in advance**. If a faculty member would like to request approval, they should contact their DFO and chair. Once approved, the DFO will need to know date, time and attendee names. This is for contact tracing purposes. You will need to **bring your own chairs or blankets** as most campus seating has been marked off-limits as they cannot be reliably sanitized. Restroom access (if needed) will have to be provided by the faculty member through their keycard access to one of our buildings.

4. Field research and travel

This is a hot topic and still under discussion. Senior Associate Dean Jon Payne is leading a university working group about this. For now, all field research and travel is **prohibited until September 1** unless there is critical or exceptional need. We hope to be able to have an exception request process in place within the next week.

Finally, anyone coming into our buildings **must social distance and wear a mask at all times**. In addition, you must have completed the [COVID-19 Hygiene training](#) and filled out the [Stanford Health Check](#). This must be done **before** you come to campus each and every time.

This is all less than ideal, but the aim is to keep us safe. If we do this right, we will get back to where we want to be more quickly. Your health is my primary concern, so please be patient and adhere to the rules.

Take care,
Steve

More information is available at the [Cardinal Recovery website](#).