

Taking into consideration the current public health situation related to COVID-19, federal agencies supporting research have released new funding opportunities as well as guidance for continuation of ongoing research. We are sharing the following for your reference and action, as relevant:

Research Continuity

The research enterprise must continue to follow regulatory guidance. Principal Investigators (PIs) should prepare to suspend projects, but only when doing so would not pose risk of harm to human or animal subjects or public health, and not starting new projects.

For animal care, essential personnel should be identified, trained, and back-up essential personnel cross-trained. Identification of essential personnel in this case may be dependent on ease of access to the animal facility. Therefore, public transit may become an issue in discerning essential personnel. Extra food and bedding for animals should be ordered. Orders for additional animals should be suspended, except on a case-by-case basis. If a campus shuts down, they should consider whether or not to implement a holding protocol. PIs should follow their campus and IACUC policies when determining whether a holding protocol is appropriate.

For tissue and other non-IACUC materials such as insects, plants, and sea animals, additional orders should be suspended, except on a case-by-case basis. PIs should be prepared to decide which to maintain (e.g., freeze) and which to abandon. PIs who work with such materials should contact their campus EHS Officer to design a contingency plan appropriate to the materials in question.

For research involving interactions with humans, interactions should be limited in accordance with CUNY Coronavirus Guidance and CDC guidance. PIs should notify the campus [HRPP Coordinator](#) and the sponsor of any pauses in research procedures. Unless otherwise notified by the sponsor, all reports due to sponsors must continue to be submitted.

For equipment/facilities, which require human attention and/or supplies for operations, order extra supplies and train/cross train essential personnel considering commute to ensure adequate coverage so as to maintain operations and prevent equipment failure. Campuses should put protocols in place to provide access during campus closures.

For researcher travel, including conferences and field research, researchers should follow CUNY travel guidance on the www.cuny.edu/coronavirus portal.

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