

University of Winnipeg Research Resumption Update

The resumption of campus research activities will occur when it is safe to do so and when reasonable measures are in place to accommodate increasing persons on campus.

The goal is to ensure we place safety, timing and evidence at the forefront of any resumption measures. As such, it will be important for researchers to adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Ensuring that the health, safety and well-being of students, staff, faculty as well as the broader community remain at the forefront;
2. Ensuring the resumption of research is phased in, adapted and carefully managed as we incrementally increase campus access;
3. Ensuring that Provincial Government, Public Health Agency directives and UWinnipeg guidelines are considered in planning for the resumption of campus research activities;
4. Recognizing that the resumption of research activities is not a return to normal research functioning; and
5. Encouraging faculty whose research activities can be completed remotely do so, especially for components of their work that involve students.

For off-campus research and fieldwork, The University of Winnipeg will continue to require faculty to develop plans for safe working conditions for themselves, research staff and students. This will continue within the normal approval processes and with adherence to additional precautions arising from Covid-19. Faculty should consult the [Experiential Learning](#) site for guidance.

The resumption of on-campus research activities must prioritize the protection of the physical, mental and emotional health/safety of our students, staff, faculty, research participants and collaborators. Researchers, including students and staff, must not feel compelled to work on campus or in the field during this period of restricted activities if they feel it presents risk to their personal health and safety. Research participants and collaborators must have the ability to opt out without penalty.

Considerations for Research Resumption on Campus

Faculty members must continue to work with their Deans and in consultation with the Vice President of Research when requesting to resume research activities on campus.

Requests to resume research activities will be considered for the circumstances listed below:

- Research activities that cannot be completed remotely or were disrupted during the initial campus shut down need to be resumed or restarted. This includes student research projects and activities.
- Research centres and institutes that require staff to be on campus to conduct business that cannot otherwise be performed remotely.
- Activities requiring access for specialized work or to meet in person with other faculty or research staff to complete or start projects.

- Research activities with time-sensitive components that require access to resources and supports that are not available remotely.

Ultimately, faculty members are strongly encouraged to develop resumption plans that minimize the number of students and research staff in labs, centres and/or institutes while ensuring social distancing measures are in place and must adhere to provincial guidelines on gatherings. This may require rotating the number of faculty/staff/students who are in research spaces at any given time. The goal is to manage the total number of persons on campus at any given time.

Meetings and gatherings for purposes other than direct research should continue to be undertaken remotely for the foreseeable future. Requests for on-campus research that involves human participants for the purposes of conducting focus groups, interviews or other related activities will be assessed on a case-by-case basis. If possible, such activities should continue to take place remotely.

A request form will be circulated shortly and researchers will be expected to submit a form and receive approval to return PRIOR to resuming on-site research.