

## Flow Cytometry Shared Resource Staged Reopening: Return to Research Update for Users

As the university's research community returns to campus, we will do our best to accommodate research needs within the Return to Research guidelines outlined below. This begins Monday, June 15, as we enter Phase 2B.

Please refer to the OVPRI [Return to Research page](#)

1. **Most importantly**, core services will be provided only to those persons who are authorized to be on campus during each corresponding phase; who have completed mandatory training; and who have made their daily attestation of health status prior to entering VCU premises.
2. Prioritization will be first given to internal COVID-19 research, then MCC researchers with NIH funding, and early career researchers. Imminent grant proposal dates or manuscript resubmissions (with proof) may also be taken into account. All other internal research follows. External use will not be approved during this phase. All prioritization will be decided by the FCSR director. If a dispute arises, the FCSR director will consult with the VCU director of research infrastructure. Per guidance from the OVPRI, services charged against an internal VCU financial index will be considered internal for the purpose of prioritization, while all others will be considered external, regardless of the investigator's status with respect to VCU affiliation.
3. We will limit the number of users in the core space to comply with the regulation for R2R of 1 person per 250 sq ft. This may increase as we transition to subsequent phases. This means that no one will enter the core unless it is his or her scheduled and confirmed time on the cell analysis instruments.
4. Multiple individuals within a room are required to maintain a personal distance of at least 6 feet whenever possible.
5. The scheduling calendar will be closed until further notice. All scheduling will be done by contacting Julie Farnsworth (jfarnsworth@vcu.edu). Scheduling can only be done by FCSR director and staff. This will allow the FCSR to accurately space users so that equipment can be thoroughly cleaned after each use with 70% ethanol. It will also allow the core to comply with operational use at this time and with each change in staging.
6. When emailing to schedule for the FCSR, you must receive a confirmation email from Julie or you are not considered scheduled.
7. When arriving for your scheduled time, please do not enter the facilities early. You **must** wear a mask and gloves and abide by social distancing whenever possible. **You will not be allowed to enter without a face mask.** You will not be allowed to bring additional people with you for your appointment at this time.
8. If you feel sick, have a fever, feel achy, or have lost your sense of taste or smell, please use common sense and do not come to the FCSR. You will not be charged for a cancelation to

keep everyone safe. The FCSR has an infrared thermometer and we may scan your temperature if needed. (This complies with the VCU daily health attestation.)

9. For sorting, we will be only operating minimal sorts at this time. To schedule these, please email XinYan Pei (xpei@vcu.edu). Samples are to be dropped off with explicit instructions emailed prior to delivery. Sorted samples are to be picked up. Provide a cell phone number that the FCSR can call for additional information about your samples and also to inform you they are ready to be picked up.
10. **The FCSR will not be open to walk-up users after hours at this time. The FCSR closes at 6 p.m. during the week and on the weekends** (when director or staff is not present). The machines and surfaces cannot be cleaned between users when staff is not present.
11. We will conduct the following activities via Zoom: data analysis, data consultation, experimental consultation, troubleshooting, figure preparation and analysis training. Please request a Zoom appointment from the FCSR director ([Rebecca.Martin@vcuhealth.org](mailto:Rebecca.Martin@vcuhealth.org)). These appointments are available to all our users, no restrictions.