

From: UVM Laboratory Safety News <UVMLABSAFE@list.uvm.edu> **On Behalf Of** Francis Churchill
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 12:12 PM
To: UVMLABSAFE@LIST.UVM.EDU
Subject: [UVMLABSAFE] Research Activity Level Change

UVM Researchers,

The UVM COVID-19 Research Activity Ad Hoc Committee meets regularly to review community level risk and adjust UVM research activities to ensure safe progress in our research activities. In the late Fall, the Committee moved UVM to research activity level 4, further restricting research activity as COVID-19 risk conditions worsened. As of today, we are returning to research activity level 3. This decision is based on a number of community trends in Vermont and on campus. We remain hyper aware, however, of the ongoing risk associated with this pandemic and we may be forced to return to level 4 in the future should the current trends reverse. A key feature of the transition to level 3 is that approved, project critical undergraduate students may now return to research activities, but remotely conducted research activities should still be encouraged as feasible.

Please note that this level 3 guidance does not apply to clinical research activities that are conducted in UVM Medical Center facilities or associated clinics. Specific new guidance for those applications consistent with UVM Medical Center and Health Network policies will be forthcoming this week from Kim Luebbers, Assistant Dean for Clinical Research and Gordon Jensen, LCOM Senior Associate Dean for Research and Director of Research for the UVM Health Network.

You can find information about the activity levels on the OVPR COVID-29 webpage:

<https://www.uvm.edu/ovpr/covid-19-guidelines-research>

And the full table of permitted and restricted activities for all research activities here:

<https://www.uvm.edu/sites/default/files/Office-of-the-Vice-President-for-Research-OVPR/Fall2020ResearchActivitiesTable1.pdf>

We thank you for your close attention to these changes and are available to answer any questions you may have about this email.

Sincerely,
Kirk Dombrowski
VP Research

On behalf of the UVM COVID-19 Research Activity Ad Hoc Committee