**COVID-19 Research Guidelines (April 8, 2020)**

This document provides COVID-19 research guidelines for **on-campus** research that directly targets this current pandemic. Research activities should have an impact in the short term (within 6 months) unless vaccine-related research (within 1 year). For purposes of this guideline, ‘impact’ means that an undertaking should achieve a go/no-go endpoint of usefulness suitable for transfer from the research stage to a development partner (e.g., an industry, governmental, or clinical partner) within the indicated timeline.

* Proposals to improve testing, treatment, or clinical characterization of COVID-19 must provide compelling arguments that the research is directly relevant to the current COVID-19 pandemic and will achieve an impact endpoint within **six months of start date.**
* Proposals for COVID-19 vaccination should achieve an impact endpoint within **one year** of start date.
* Studies of specific potential drug targets against COVID-19 will also be considered but must include strong rationale (e.g. rapid testing a drug/compound in a HTRL core facility) - most would be deemed too slow and unlikely to yield an impact endpoint within 6 months of start date
* Priority will be given to proposals to demonstrate the feasibility of obtaining clinical samples, or residual material, from the Department of Pathology’s Clinical Laboratories.
* Priority will be given to proposals that are written in response to any COVID-19-related Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) from a federal agency, carried out in response to a request from a federal agency to repurpose toward COVID-19, or are validated by major third parties such as governmental or non-governmental organizations or companies active in infectious disease development that could serve as development partners should impact be achieved.

Highest priority will be given to those projects deemed most likely to enhance treatment of COVID-19 patients, or to terminate the spread of infection.

Application of guidelines:

Each division should use these guidelines to assess current on -campus COVID-19 related research activities and new proposals.

New proposals must specify:

* All personnel involved (including graduate students)
* Number of in-person contact hours
* Whether any live virus propagation/amplification requiring the BSL3 facility at Howard Taylor Ricketts Laboratory is being proposed
* If research activities involve samples or specimens that may contain SARS-CoV-2 and need to involve the Office of Research Safety.
* If any research cores or animal work is needed.
* All work locations
* A plan for social distancing and staggered work schedules, when multiple personnel are involved.