

Whitman Research Resumption Plan (Phase III)

As part of its re-opening strategy the MBL has adopted a phased plan for returning to research following CDC and Commonwealth of Massachusetts safety guidelines. These have included reduced occupancy in labs, mandatory mask wearing, increased cleaning protocols and lab occupancy/cleaning logs to be maintained and reviewed daily. These actions have been effective in creating an environment that mitigates the risk of COVID-19 transmission, ultimately enabling the MBL to re-open labs and welcome a limited number of visiting researchers to campus.

The MBL is now in its Phase 3 of research activities. The MBL and the Woods Hole community are not “back to normal.” All Whitman Scientists, Whitman Fellows, Grass Fellows, and MBL Fellows planning to conduct research at the MBL must complete the registration process prior to arrival on campus. This includes a COVID-19 vaccine registration and attestation, and agreement to adhere to the MBL COVID-19 Workplace Safety Policy, including mandatory mask wearing in all research areas. These processes and guidelines reflect our experience conducting research at the MBL during the pandemic and the growing understanding of best practices for mitigating the risk of spreading of SARS-CoV-2 in environments where proper hygiene, social distancing, and mask wearing protocols are strictly followed. By registering, Principal Investigators commit to monitor, evaluate, and govern safe behaviors in their lab.

Each registrant is responsible for downloading and reading the following documents:

- [**MBL COVID-19 Workplace Safety Policy**](#)
- [**Guidance for Using Masks in MBL Work Areas**](#)
- [**MBL Mandatory Daily Health Screening Form**](#)