

EH&S COVID-19 Related Updates as of 6/8/2020:

EH&S Process Updates

Here are some COVID-19 related updates that may provide some clarification.

Processes to remain the same:

EH&S will continue to distribute PPE, such as lab coats and safety eyewear, which are prescribed through the Laboratory Hazard Assessment Tool (LHAT) system. Questions regarding the LHAT system can be directed to ehslaboratory@ucr.edu. Departments ordering other PPE such as gloves can be purchased through regular eBuy channels.

Additionally, EH&S will continue to critical functions related to emergency response coordination, hazardous waste collection and delivery of research materials under the purview of EH&S including radiation packages and controlled substances.

For a safety emergency such as a hazardous materials spill, injury or illness, contact UCPD (951)827-5222 or 911 on a cellular device.

Report an incident, injury, or safety concern, including COVID-19 concerns related to public health safety using the [online reporting tool](#).

Interim Processes during COVID-19 pandemic:

Face Coverings:

Face coverings to meet public health and campus requirements are available through EH&S. Information on face coverings, including how to request from EH&S, is available [here](#). The EH&S contact information regarding face coverings is ehspublichealth@ucr.edu. It is important to note that face coverings are not considered Personal Protective Equipment.

For medical supplies such as surgical masks and N95 respirators, EH&S and campus Procurement will manage the campus allocations from our medical suppliers, Medline and McKesson. The procurement of these items is currently strained by the COVID-19 outbreak, with limited resources available. In order to meet the needs of our campus, the following guidelines have been developed:

- Medical PPE is reserved as first priority for our medical providers, such as Student Health Services and UCR Health and first responders.
- Additional allocations will be prioritized based on essential activities such as COVID testing, fulfillment of emergency PPE stockpile, patient interactions, and animal care.
- N95 respirators and surgical masks are not available to purchase for meeting public health and campus face covering requirements.

Once medical supply needs are fulfilled, if there are surgical masks or N95s left from our campus medical PPE allocation they may be available to the campus to purchase. For non-medical groups, the following is the process to let EH&S know of your interest to procure these items, so we can notify you when allocations are available to non-medical groups:

For surgical masks:

- Surgical masks may be available from nonmedical suppliers on eBay, but could have long lead times. If you do not have an urgent need and can plan purchases several months out from a nonmedical supplier on eBay, please do so.
- If supplies are not available, please have PI/supervisor fill out the following form (Medical PPE Intent to Purchase Notification) to notify EH&S of your intent to purchase from our medical allocation.

For N95 respirators:

- Due to constraints in supply for health care workers and first responders, N95 respirator purchasing should be limited only to areas with a verified occupational health need, rather than any voluntary uses. Click [here](#) for more information on UCR's Respiratory Protection Program.
- By requirements of Cal/OSHA, users of N95 respirators are required to be fit tested annually by EH&S Industrial Hygiene before use. This requirement will be verified by EH&S before N95 respirators can be purchased. Information about the fit testing process is available [here](#).
- If N95 respirators are needed for your work, please have the PI/supervisor fill out the following form (Medical PPE Intent to Purchase Notification) to notify EH&S of your intent to purchase from our medical allocation.

Disinfectants and Sanitizers:

Facilities Services is leading the campus effort to purchase disinfectants and cleaning supplies, please email facilities@ucr.edu with specific questions. Hand sanitizer stations will also be provided in each building by Facilities Services. The anticipated arrival of these high demand items is July 1. If your lab is looking to purchase hand sanitizer for your lab use, you may purchase directly via your normal purchasing process.

Additional Resources:

Signs and Posters:

Signs and posters that can be used across campus are available for download on the [Coronavirus Resources](#) page (<https://ehs.ucr.edu/coronavirus/resources>). The "Keeping Yourself Healthy" poster has been posted at the entrance of each building, and the "Elevator" sign has been posted on the ground floor and inside of each elevator. More signs are available on the website. Check back periodically as new signs such as maximum occupancy, Do Not Enter, one way, etc. are under development and will be uploaded to this website when available.

Research Ramp Up Checklist:

As you prepare for ramp up of your research activities, please utilize the [Research Ramp Up Checklist](#) as a guidance tool for safe ramp up, which is not intended to be a requirement prior to restarting research.

For questions or concerns, email ehslaboratory@ucr.edu.

