

To protect researchers and participants, researchers must utilize remote data collection if possible. For studies that remote data collection is not possible, PI's must complete a protocol plan for in-person research.

COMPONENTS OF AN IN-PERSON RESEARCH PROTOCOL PLAN:

1. Researchers must provide a rationale for why remote data collection is not possible
2. Researchers need to ensure that participants:
 - have not received a diagnosis of COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
 - have not had close contact with someone with a lab confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the past 14 days.
 - do not report any of the following COVID-19 symptoms:
 - a. cough
 - b. shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
 - c. chills
 - d. muscle pain
 - e. headache
 - f. sore throat
 - g. loss of taste or smell
 - h. diarrhea
3. Researchers should take participant temperature to ensure that it is not 100 degrees or more.
4. A distance of 6 feet must be maintained between study personnel and participants throughout in-person interactions, unless participation requires closer contact.
5. Masks must be worn by study personnel and participants over the age of three throughout in-person interactions.
6. If study participation requires contact closer than 6 feet, N95 or surgical masks, gloves, and safety glasses must be employed.
7. Study spaces, facilities, and equipment must be cleaned and disinfected before and after in-person interactions.
8. It is recommended that no more than 2 people should be in a room together. For studies that require more than two people, approval is needed by AHEC and Department Chairs.

9. Researchers must keep a list of all participants who participated in their study and who interacted with them.
10. Research with participants who fall into one of the following high-risk categories should only occur remotely:
 - Asthma
 - Chronic kidney disease treated with dialysis
 - Chronic lung disease
 - Diabetes
 - Hemoglobin disorders
 - Immunocompromised
 - Liver Disease
 - People in nursing homes or long-term care facilities
 - Serious heart conditions
 - Severe obesity
 - 65 years and older
11. Consent forms should contain a general statement that explains that while steps have been taken to minimize the risk of COVID-19 transmission, there is still the risk of contracting COVID-19.
12. Research being conducted on the Auraria campus must be approved by Department Chairs and AHEC
13. Researchers collecting data at approved institutions (e.g. schools, prisons, clinics), must follow the external institutions policies for interactions with others
14. Research in non-institutional or community settings is not permitted at this time