



HARVARD

School of Dental Medicine

Date: June 8, 2020

From: HSDM Dean

To: HSDM Community

Subject: First Steps of Reopening

Dear Members of the HSDM Community,

We hope you are staying well. Working with our colleagues at the University, and with guidance from State and local health authorities, we have started to take first steps to reopen portions of the School, starting with our laboratories. A great deal of thought and consideration has gone into our planning as well as additional precautions to ensure safety and maintain social distancing. While the majority of us will continue to work from home, a small number will return in the following areas:

Research

We announced with HMS that a limited number of researchers and lab personnel will be authorized to return to campus beginning as early as today, **Monday, June 8**. Laboratory facilities and personnel will be required to follow a detailed [re-entry plan](#), beginning with [Lab COVID-19 Awareness Training](#) before returning to campus. Additionally, all individuals who are authorized to be on site must complete the COVID-19 screening certification on Harvard's [health-reporting website](#), [Crimson Clear](#) daily in order to enter campus buildings. Access for lab personnel to HSDM buildings will be only through the Research and Education Building (REB) at 190 Longwood Avenue. Those entering will be required to show their Harvard ID and Crimson Clear attestation to the security attendant. This applies to both entering and exiting. For more details see HSDM's [laboratory reopening details](#) posted online.

Clinical Care

The Harvard Dental Center is currently seeing patients of record for emergency and urgent dental needs, while following a phased approach to reopening that entails heightened infection control protocols, new screening procedures, PPE, and social distancing protocols. Phase I, which is currently in progress, allows for expanded emergency care by faculty. Phase II will focus on returning AGE and DMD students to the patient care environment. Phase III will focus on safely increasing the operational capacity of the HDC. The rate at which capacity can be increased will be determined by the state of Massachusetts.

Education

As announced earlier, incoming DMD students and rising second year DMD students will be taking all courses remotely through the end of the calendar year. Third-and-fourth-year students and AGE students in clinical training programs will begin to return to the School for

preclinical and limited clinical education on **Monday, July 6**. Detailed plans for returning students include continued remote didactic learning, social distancing, and other protocols which will be communicated by the Office of Dental Education. International students will receive special guidance.

While we begin to reopen some areas of our operations, all other personnel should plan to remain working remotely through the end of August, with possible extension to December or later depending on the course of COVID-19.

We thank you for your continued patience and understanding. Please rest assured all decisions regarding a phased approach to reopening are made with thoughtful consideration of sustaining our research and educational programs, and providing much needed care to our patient population, while keeping the health and safety of our community at the forefront.

Sincerely,

Vicki Rosen
Interim Dean, HSDM

Charles Frizzell
Dean for Administration and Finance