Introduction to Friedman Building Safety Plan

The Friedman building houses the Department of Physical Therapy and the School of Audiology and Speech Sciences and other occupant groups.

Following the directive to move to remote educational activities only in March, UBC is implementing a phased resumption of some limited on-campus educational activities from the beginning of July, adopting a gradual approach over the summer months. On-campus educational activities will be limited to coursework which requires on-campus resources and has a practical or clinical component that cannot be taught remotely. As a reminder, and in keeping with public health guidelines, any course content that can
be delivered remotely will be and the majority of our faculty and staff will need to continue working remotely, wherever possible.

At full occupancy, Friedman has faculty, staff and students spread over four floors. The planned resumption of some educational activities will limit the occupancy of the teaching and learning spaces well below full occupancy, in keeping with guidelines from WorkSafe BC.

This COVID-19 Building Safety Plan will provide assistance for faculty and staff who need to provide some face-to-face instruction to ensure students meet the learning goals of their courses. This plan will include a review of Friedman operational activities and directives to ensure effective controls are in place to prevent the infection from COVID-19. This document will be updated per government and/or University mandated requirements are changed. [https://covid19.ubc.ca/](https://covid19.ubc.ca/)

**Reference Documents:**

Guidance documents and resources on the Safety & Risk Services (SRS) COVID-19 Website were used in the development of this workspace plan.

PPE Reference Documents:
- [BC Centre for Disease Control](https://www.bccdc.ca/)- Clinical Resources
- [BC Centre for Disease Control](https://www.bccdc.ca/)- PPE Bulletin
- [Office of the Provincial Health Officer](https://www2.gov.bc.ca(bc)- Covid-19 Infection Prevention Control
- [BC CDC Hand Wash Hygiene Information](https://www.bccdc.ca/)

**General Procedure:**

The following general procedures align with guidelines set by the BCCDC to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

The prioritization guidelines of on-site activities is as follows:
- Clinical Skills Coursework for students set to graduate in 2020.
- Positions required to run clinical skills lab sessions.
- Student Clinical Placements/ PTRC Activities
- Clinical Skills Coursework for students set to graduate in 2021.
- Clinical Skills Coursework for students set to graduate in 2022.
- School of Audiology & Speech Research Assumption (Research Resumption Plan to be submitted separately to FoM Office of Research)
- Upcoming time sensitive activities that cannot be done remotely and require on-site access.
- Equity considerations for those that cannot work from home for various circumstances.
- Non-time sensitive activities that cannot be done remotely for limited access.
It is expected that all in-person sessions/administrative work at Friedman will satisfy the above priorities and that scheduling conflicts that arise will use the above as a guideline for resolution.

The building administrators have set occupancy limitations by room within the building (Appendix 1) to ensure there is adequate space to allow physical distancing.

Faculty and staff self-compliance with the guidelines set out in this document is of the utmost importance. Additionally, each department is responsible for adhering to policies put in place by the Faculty of Medicine and UBC. Failure to adhere to these policies increases the risk of an outbreak in our community, and lack of compliance could ultimately lead to closure of the facility.

1. **Before you come to work, monitor your health status.**

   According to the WHO, the common symptoms of COVID-19 are:
   - Fever
   - Dry Cough
   - Tiredness
   - Loss of sense of taste/smell
   - Sore throat

   If you are experiencing any of these symptoms, complete the [BC COVID-19 Symptom Self-Assessment Tool](https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/health/services/monitoring-covid-19/symptom-assessment), and call 8-1-1. You must not come to work and must self-isolate.

   If you experience the onset of symptoms while in the building, all building occupants should don a mask immediately (if available and not already wearing one) excuse one’s self from participation in any activity, report this to their supervisor/instructor and complete self-assessment tool above.

2. **Getting to Work**

   Private methods of transportation are preferred – free parking permits are available through to the end of August 2020, visit [parking.ubc.ca](https://parking.ubc.ca). Where proximity allows, biking and walking may be good options. If you need to take transit, try your best to maintain physical distancing at all times and follow hygiene recommendations (hand washing, use of hand sanitizer etc.).
3. **Friedman Traffic Flow**

- **Building Entrances** - Building entrances will remain locked 24/7. Users with programmed card access can enter the building via the North or South entrances using card scanners. For security reasons, do not to let others enter behind you.

- **Elevators** - Friedman elevators have been assigned a maximum occupancy of 2 and corresponding signage has been posted at elevator doors on all levels. Occupants are not to exceed these temporary occupancy ratings. Whenever possible, usage of elevators should be prioritized for those with accessibility needs or for transporting materials.

- **Stairwells** - Occupants must adhere to all physical distancing requirement while in stairwells. Landing areas between each floor can be used to ensure physical distancing if required. Signage will be posted reminding occupants to keep to the right.

4. **Friedman Space Occupancy Restrictions**

- **Friedman Teaching Labs**
  Friedman Teaching Labs will be assigned maximum occupancy ratings (based on COVID social distancing requirements). Occupants are not to exceed these designated occupancy ratings and must use administrative measures (such as scheduling) to maximize utilization of those spaces. This will be done at the department level, among the user groups of those particular spaces. Areas /rooms that are shared by multiple user groups must be sanitized at the start, and at the end, of every usage period. See section on “Sanitization of surfaces”.

- **Physical Therapy and Research Clinic (PTRC)**
  The PTRC will operate under the guidelines for resuming Physical Therapy services set out by the College of Physical Therapist of British Columbia and BCCDC’s *Infection Prevention and Control for COVID-19: Interim Guidance for Outpatient and Ambulatory Care Settings*. The maximum occupancy of this space is restricted to 11 people (1 person/40ft2). A plexiglass screen will be located at the reception desk and all furniture and high touch areas in the reception area will be regularly cleaned. See section on “Sanitization of surfaces”.
  Staff, students and clients will all complete a health screening questionnaire every day before the start of the workday or appointment.
  The clinic will use scheduling to minimize overlap of clients arriving and departing. Clients will be asked not to arrive early nor wait in reception.

- **Offices & open concept workstations**
  As per University and provincial directives, work that can be done remotely (i.e. from home) should continue to be done remotely. As a result, the use of Friedman offices and open concept workstations should continue to be kept to an absolute minimum.
COVID-19 Safety Plan Resumption of Educational Activities

Friedman office spaces should not exceed 1 person (at a time). Offices and workstations that are shared in any fashion should be sanitized at the start, and at the end, of every usage period. See section on “Sanitization of surfaces”.

- **Meeting Rooms**
  Meeting rooms will not be used to hold meetings of any kind. In keeping with UBC directive face-to-face meetings are discouraged and should be avoided whenever possible (until post-pandemic normalization). Virtual meetings should be arranged whenever possible.

- **Common kitchens, staff or student lounges**
  These areas are not to be used to hold meetings but will remain open so occupants can use the fridge, microwave, sink and garbage. Occupants using these areas must strictly adhere to social distancing requirements and stay more than 2 metres (6 feet) from one another.
  Whenever possible, occupants are encouraged to bring food that is properly contained and ready to eat without the need for refrigeration, heating, or preparation in common kitchens. Occupants are encouraged to wash their hands before and after the use of any kitchen equipment.
  There should be no sharing of kitchen dishware/utensils.
  Water fountains will be closed for use.
  Occupants are encouraged to eat or take breaks outside if the weather permits.

- **Washrooms**
  Occupants using washrooms must strictly adhere to social distancing requirements and stay more than 2 metres (6 feet) from one another.
  Multiple occupant-rated washrooms are restricted to a maximum of two occupants (at one time).

- **Breakout Rooms**
  Student Breakout rooms will be closed to any unscheduled educational activities. During scheduled activities the occupancy of these rooms is restricted to a maximum of two occupants. Occupants using breakout rooms must strictly adhere to social distancing requirements and stay more than 2 metres (6 feet) from one another whenever possible.

- **Lobbies/Reception Areas**
  Occupants using these spaces must strictly adhere to social distancing requirements and stay more than 2 metres (6 feet) from one another. Occupants are encouraged to take breaks or wait outside the building rather than in the lobby areas if the weather permits. Departments within Friedman will use scheduling to minimise the number of occupants arriving and departing at the same time.

- **Lecture Theatre**
  The Friedman Lecture Theatre will remain closed as lecture-based coursework will be delivered in an online/remote format.

- **Mail Room/Printer Rooms**
The maximum occupancy of these rooms is set to one occupant. Occupants are encouraged where ever possible to use digital versions of documents and paperwork to avoid using the printer. Occupants are encouraged to wash their hands before and after the use of any mailroom/printer room equipment.

5. **Meetings**

According to University directives, face-to-face meetings are discouraged and should be avoided whenever possible (until post-pandemic normalization). Virtual meetings should be arranged whenever possible. Meetings or training sessions deemed essential may need to occur. In such cases, social distancing requirements and all Friedman space-use restrictions must be strictly observed. Please refer to https://riskmanagement.sites.olt.ubc.ca/files/2020/04/Guidelines-for-Meetings-Trainings-FINAL.pdf

6. **Handwashing/Sanitizing Stations**

As per health authority recommendations, the best protection is provided by washing hands with soap and water for 20 seconds at a time. All Friedman teaching labs, kitchen areas, and washrooms are equipped with sinks and soap dispensers. Please wash your hands to protect yourself, and others, especially before and after touching surfaces that are difficult to sanitize or are frequently touched.

Hand sanitizer dispensing stations will be located inside the main Friedman entrances. As well as the entrances to the Friedman teaching labs and the Physical Therapy and Research Clinic. Custodial Services will refill the dispensers at building entrances regularly. If you notice a dispenser is empty, you can note the time and location and place a trouble call via 604.822.2173. Administrative staff will refill the sanitising stations inside teaching labs and the PTRC.

7. **Daily Cleaning**

Building Operations will clean the Friedman building once per day including common areas, high touch points, washrooms, lunchrooms and kitchens. Building operations continues to meet ISSA Canada and APPA Leadership in Educational Facilities cleaning standards for COVID-19. Building operations will ensure washrooms, hand-washing stations, and sanitization stations at the building entrances are stocked with needed materials.

Building Operations will not be cleaning areas of the building that remain occupied when they arrive to clean. If any building operations workers need to attend to your area, please vacate to
ensure the safety needs of these workers can be met and that the building can be serviced appropriately.

8. Sanitization of Surfaces

Building Operations will not use cleaning product on lab counters, and as is the normal practice, will not clean any lab equipment. Desktops and personal items will not be cleaned by Building Operations. We encourage individuals to clean these items regularly. Commonly touched areas and shared equipment that you touch must be cleaned and disinfected when you finish working. Additionally, clean and disinfect surfaces when you start your shift, or when visibly soiled. Public Health Agency of Canada’s biosecurity directive on SARS-CoV-2 lists disinfectants such as 10% bleach, 70% ethanol, 0.5% hydrogen peroxide, and phenolics as being effective. 70% Ethanol is available at LSI Stores. Consult SRS’s SOP on cleaning procedures for more information.

Keyboard covers that allow spray-down are highly recommended to facilitate sanitization. Follow manufacturers’ guidelines for cleaning and sanitization of electronics and other specialized pieces of equipment.

9. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal protective equipment (PPE) has a role in preventing exposure to COVID-19 but must be combined with other measures to be effective. The University has produced official, university-wide guidance documents on the procurement and use of PPE during the COVID-19 pandemic.

These resources are attached in Appendix 3.

All university employees and contractors in Friedman are to refer and adhere to these policies, standards, and practices.

PPE guidelines are based on the following principles:

a) Education is the cornerstone of good infection control. All participants in small group sessions will receive appropriate educational sessions.

b) Given that clinical skills sessions are with healthy participants who are to be screened and have no symptoms and all participants are wearing masks,

c) The physical barrier of a mask on every individual will be more than adequate to prevent transmission of droplets even if one of the participants has COVID-19 with no apparent symptoms.
COVID-19 Safety Plan Resumption of Educational Activities

d) Provincial guidelines for physical distancing will be adhered to wherever possible and in such cases where a 2m separation is not possible, appropriate PPE will be worn.
e) Theoretically, only surgical masks and proper hand hygiene are necessary but protective eyewear and gloves are being added in accordance with provincial guidance.

PPE provided during the above activities will be:

- Surgical/Procedural Masks- two masks for each participant for each session. Masks must be changed if soiled.
- Standard Procedural Gloves- two pairs of gloves for each participant for each session. Gloves must be changed if soiled.
- Goggles- Students/Instructioners will be provided with one pair of protective goggles each. They will responsible for cleaning and for replacement if lost.

PPE will be obtained through UBC’s central PPE Procurement Process.

As stated above, Education is the cornerstone of good infection control. Students will be provided Hand Wash Hygiene Training based on the BC CDC Guidelines. Students will also be required to complete an online module on infection control and the use of PPE, including donning/doffing training.

Communications Plan

This document will be disseminated electronically to all staff and faculty of departments in the Friedman building. The contents will be reviewed with staff and instructors approved to return for in-person educational activities during a meeting with the building administrator prior to the resumption of activities.

Prior to returning to campus, all UBC community members will be required to complete an online training course (details to be provided as soon as available)

Compliance Monitoring

According to University directives, monitoring of compliance with COVID safety plans will be at the supervisor level. Friedman will continue to follow the university's accountability structure as laid out in the university safety policy.

Student activity in the building will be monitored by staff and instructors.
Additionally, Friedman occupants who have concerns about compliance, or have any related questions, can contact members of their Local Safety Teams (LSTs).

**Emergency Procedures**

In the event of an emergency, standard Friedman emergency procedures as laid out in the Building Emergency response plan are to be followed, while adhering, as best as possible, to social distancing practices.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):**

After applying the Hierarchy of Controls to meet COVID-19 requirements, the following activities will require personal protective equipment:

- Clinical Skills Coursework during which students must be within 2m of each other
- Patient Care in the Physical Therapy & Research Clinic

PPE will be provided as per [BC Centre for Disease Control](https://bcgov.ca/) and the [Office of the Provincial Health Officer Guidelines](https://gov.bc.ca/) and the UBC Faculty of Medicine.

I confirm that this Safety Plan has been shared with personnel who will be accessing this space both through email and will be made available as a shared document. Staff can either provide a signature or email confirmation that they have received, read and understood the contents of the plan.

**Appendix**

Please link to any maps, pictures, applicable UBC Guidance documents and other regulatory requirements referred to in document.

**Appendix 1- Friedman Room Projected Occupancy Levels:**

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<th>Friedman 204</th>
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<th>Department of Physical Therapy</th>
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<td>Friedman 304</td>
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<td>Freidman 244 (PTRC)</td>
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<td>Friedman 104</td>
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<td>Department of Physical Therapy</td>
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<td>Friedman 143 – SASS Student lounge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friedman 452 – SASS Staff Room</td>
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Appendix 2- Friedman Floor Plans
COVID-19 Safety Plan Resumption of Educational Activities
Appendix 3 - UBC Employee COVID-19 PPE Guidance

**UBC Employee COVID-19 PPE Guidance**

**Overview**

This document provides guidance about UBC’s stance on employee Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including industry standard face masks/respirators, gloves, homemade and non-surgical masks and other PPE in relation to COVID-19 and other infectious diseases.

Visit [ubc.ca/covid19](http://ubc.ca/covid19) for more information about UBC’s response to COVID-19, including frequently asked questions.

**Current health guidance relating to PPE**

Throughout the current COVID-19 global outbreak UBC has taken direction on infection prevention from the Provincial Health Officer, the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC)
and Vancouver Coastal Health (VCH), and continues to do so. This guidance can be expected to evolve as these agencies continually monitor accumulating scientific evidence to determine how we can best prevent the spread of COVID-19.

As this document has been developed, the current health guidance from the above agencies can be summarized as follows:

- Incorrect selection and/or use of PPE may increase your risk of exposure.
- Using non-medical or homemade protective equipment does not diminish the need for physical distancing, frequent hand washing and avoiding touching your face.
- There is no established proof that wearing non-medical or homemade protective equipment protects the person wearing it, and it may provide a false sense of security.
- Wearing a non-medical mask in public may help to limit the travel of your respiratory droplets when you cough, sneeze or talk - which may help to protect others.
- Medical /surgical masks should be used by people who are sick and health care workers.
- N95 Respirators, Medical masks and other critical PPE are in short supply and are needed by health care workers to safely care for their patients.

**Personal Protective Equipment in the workplace**

Based on the above medical guidance and circumstances on our campuses, UBC’s position on PPE is as follows:

- UBC employees carrying out tasks that require PPE, including respirators, will continue to be supplied with the appropriate equipment, as per the relevant safe working procedure.
- UBC employees carrying out tasks that do not normally require PPE will not be supplied with masks or respirators of any description.
- UBC will not provide employees with non-medical or homemade masks as these masks do not meet the performance standards for workplace PPE and do not satisfy the safety requirements of any work task.
- UBC employees may wear a non-medical mask or homemade mask at work, provided it does not interfere with them safely carrying out their duties.
- UBC asks the campus community to be respectful of students, faculty and staff who choose to wear masks.
The role of PPE in protecting employees

PPE is used to protect employees from specific risks, however it is the least effective method of protecting employees, as outlined in the below Hierarchy of Controls diagram. The diagram also includes examples of current UBC COVID-19 risk mitigation activities.

Respirators & Masks

Respirators are one type of PPE, and conditions of their usage for workplace safety is closely regulated by WorkSafeBC. To be effective, all respirators used must be fitted to an individual’s face through a fit test.

Health care workers may be directed to wear either N95 Respirators or Medical/ Surgical Masks as part of their PPE for specific tasks and under the regulations as they pertain to health care settings.

Supply shortages in N95 respirators have prompted the assessment of KN95 respirators as an alternative to address particulate respiratory hazards. However, KN95 masks have been deemed inappropriate for occupational use at UBC due to the inability to properly fit test them and lack of vendor clarity around manufacturing standards. Any KN95 masks received as donations cannot be issued to UBC Employees.
Gloves
There are many types of gloves, and the choice of glove must take into account all of the hazards that may be present, as gloves are rated for their usefulness as a barrier to different types of chemicals. Medical gloves create a barrier around the hands to reduce an individual’s risk of exposure to hazardous agents. This type of PPE can be used during infectious outbreaks but must be used carefully to avoid transferring contamination between the handling of infected and clean items. Personal electronics, high touch surfaces and other shared items are prone to this ‘cross contamination.’

Eye & Face Protection
Eye protection, through safety glasses or goggles, and face shields are recommended for health care workers where there is the potential for any spraying or splattering of blood or other bodily fluids. Safety glasses can be found in various different styles and offer side protection in the form of either wraparound arms or shields. Goggles offer a higher degree of spray/splatter protection compared to safety glasses due to their ability to form a tight seal around the eyes. Face shields can protect the entire face from biological hazards. A face shield is often considered a secondary safeguard to protective eyewear. In other words, face shields are typically not used on their own. As per WorkSafeBC requirements, these types of PPE need to meet CSA Standards.

Information about using non-medical or homemade protective equipment
Non-medical/homemade masks are not classed as Personal Protective Equipment. UBC does not endorse the use of non-medical or homemade masks. UBC will only supply Personal Protective Equipment that meet applicable standards and as required for UBC work.

If you are considering using a non-medical or homemade mask, you can find information about how to do so safely on the BC Centre of Disease Control website.
Advice on PPE at UBC

If you have any questions or require advice about PPE at UBC, or if you need to widely communicate information in this document, please contact Safety & Risk Services by emailing ready.ubc@ubc.ca.