

Frequently Asked Questions - Researchers

Q. I do face-to-face interviews or focus groups with my research participants?

A. After 31st August 2021, this type of work may proceed, provided it is carried out safely in full compliance with public health guidelines. In all cases sensible precautions should be observed such as maintaining physical distance, wearing masks, and limiting the time of interactions. A record should be kept of the attendees at all meetings.

Q. My project has been significantly delayed due to COVID 19 what can I do?

A. If your project is within 6-9 months of completion please contact the Research Development Office team who can assist you in seeking a budget re-allocation and/or no cost extension to determine if there are sufficient funds within the budget to complete the budget or if GRA or other RIF might be allocated to the project. You may also apply for an extension to your project via the [MU HEA COVID 19 Costed Extension Fund](#). The final call is now open and will close on 25th August 2021

Q. My project requires me to carry out field work overseas what do I do?

A. Field work in certain countries may now be possible, provided (i) there is university insurance available for the destination and (ii) that all COVID regulations are adhered to in both Ireland and the destination country.

Q. My Horizon 2020 project grant management and project delivery has been impacted by COVID 19 what can I do?

A. The Research Executive Agency (REA) published a list of possible issues and the REA response in May which is available here <https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/covid-19-research-executive-agency-business-continuity-measures-2020-mar-18-en>. If you require further assistance please contact a member of the Research Development Office team. You may also apply for an extension to your project via the [MU HEA COVID 19 Costed Extension Fund](#). The final call is now open and will close on 25th August 2021

Q. My IRC Funded Research project grant management and/ or project delivery has been impacted by COVID 19, what can I do?

A. Please consult the IRC's [IRC and Covid Webpage](#) for more information, and contact louise.bolger@mu.ie at least 6 weeks before your award end date and we can arrange a no cost extension or budget re-allocation. You may also apply for an extension to your project via the [MU HEA COVID 19 Costed Extension Fund](#). The final call is now open and will close on 25th August 2021

Q. I'm an MSCA fellow and I have queries about my fellowship what can I do?

A. General guidelines were published by the EU in April and are available here: [https://ec.europa.eu/info/news/covid-19-research-executive-agency-business-continuity-measures-2020-mar-18-en](#)

https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/news/coronavirus-extensions-msca-projects_en . Further specific information can be provided by the National Contact point and your Programme Officer. If you need assistance please contact a member of the Research Development Office team.

Q. I'm interested in finding out about COVID 19 related research and funding opportunities where can I look?

A. The EU have established a dedicated **European Research Area (ERA) corona platform** that compiles information on a) EU and national funding opportunities related to COVID 19 b) funded projects and datasets related to COVID 19 and c) latest Horizon 2020 FAQs related to COVID 19.

The **European Research Area (ERA) corona platform** can be accessed here:
<https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/covid-19>