

Frequently Asked Questions - Researchers

- Q. I do face-to-face interviews or focus groups with my research participants?**
- A. Face-to-face meetings or interactions with research participants can pose an increased risk of transmission of COVID 19. Therefore for the foreseeable future it would be prudent for interactions with research participants to continue to be undertaken remotely using an online platform. The recommended platform for research is MS teams as it is compliant with GDPR. If there is any question as to whether face-to-face interactions are required for a specific project, please consult your Head of Department who may refer the question to the Return to Campus Office.
- 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.
- Q. My project requires me to carry out field work overseas what do I do?**
- A. The current government guidelines have advised against all non-essential travel overseas, therefore you should initially determine if it is feasible to push any potential field work out to a later stage in the project. If your project is due to finish in the coming 6-9 months you should contact the Research Development Office to determine if the scope of work could be changed with approval from the funding agency.
- 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.
- Q. My IRC Funded Research project grant management and/ or project delivery has been impacted by COVID 19, what can I do?**
- A. If your award end date is by 31st December 2020, 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.
- 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/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>
- Q. I recently recruited a PhD student from overseas who is due to arrive and commence the research project shortly what do I have to do?**
- A. Please consult the information regarding postgraduates and international students on the [Graduate Studies Website](#).