

Colby IRB COVID-19 Guidelines

All research conducted on campus must follow college-wide COVID-19 protocols. Please see the Colby portal for a link to the 2020-2021 COVID-19 Policy. All research activities must follow social-distancing, mask-wearing, hand-sanitizing, established COVID-19 room capacities, and other measures aimed at protecting the Colby community. At this time, off-campus research studies are discouraged. The college's general policy for the fall semester is to avoid projects that require interaction with people in the local community. If you have any questions about these policies, please email the Colby Institutional Review Board at InstitutionalReviewBoard@colby.edu.

All research must continue to comply with Colby's IRB policy and procedure, including the requirement that no human research project be conducted without obtaining IRB approval and participant informed consent. See IRB FAQ, located at <http://www.colby.edu/psych/irb/>. New guidelines for on-campus studies include:

1. All research that can be conducted remotely should be conducted remotely.
2. Researchers who wish to conduct in-person, face-to-face human-subjects research must follow Colby's COVID-19 protocols. The researcher must also affirm that they will follow these guidelines in their application to IRB. You may do so in the section on participant risk. Please affirm that you will adhere to Colby's COVID-19 protocols in order to ensure that human subjects do not face any foreseeable risk to health and safety through participation in your study.

Frequently Asked Questions

Can participants be asked the same questions on the college-wide symptom checklist?

Since all human subjects on campus are part of the Colby COVID-19 testing pool, it is not necessary to ask the same questions as those on the daily symptom checklist.

Can participants be asked to confirm that their most recent COVID-19 test was negative?

Since all human subjects on campus are part of the Colby COVID-19 testing pool, and anyone who tests positive for coronavirus will automatically be isolated/quarantined, one may assume that a subject's most recent COVID-19 test was negative. It is thus unnecessary to ask this question.