

COVID-19 STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES

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The Fusion Theory and Computation Group in USU's Physics Department involves a large number of senior colleagues and graduate students collaborating on theoretical and computational plasma physics funded by the Department of Energy. In the past, this research took place in our offices (SER 224 and 230), the students' offices (SER 208 and 225), or the physics conference room (SER 244), and involved work with markers at a white board or sharing of computer keyboards. Both of these forms of interaction will be modified to avoid risk.

SPACE AND EQUIPMENT SAFETY

1. **DISTANCING:** The predominant form of interacting with student researchers and colleagues will be through online Skype or Zoom sessions. When face-to-face meetings are necessary, our plan is to meet in small groups in SER 244 to maximize distance and the volume of shared air.
2. **EQUIPMENT:** Markers, erasers and a white board are critical pieces of equipment for theoretical physicists. We will use the large white board in SER 244 and carefully disinfect markers and erasers as we work. Sharing of computers for programming tasks will be avoided.

PERSONAL HYGIENE AND PPE

- Group members will also be encouraged to follow good hygiene practices as outlined by the CDC (frequent handwashing, sanitizing of surfaces, social distancing, and cloth masks). Online access to digitized materials will further limit our group's exposure.

TIME MANAGEMENT

- While graduate students will be encouraged to stagger their time in their offices, student interaction is an essential experience in grad school. Valuable interaction will be carried out according to the above practices by employing disinfectant and distancing when working at the white board and by not sharing computer keyboards.

WORKER HEALTH

- We will make a point to remind students and colleagues to follow best practices of hygiene and prevention. Meetings will most often be held remotely. Frequent mental and physical health check ins will help us keep up to date on our group's status.