

RETURN TO RESEARCH POLICY — ANTEC CORE FACILITY

This policy is intended to mitigate the risks of spreading COVID-19 as researchers and staff return to work in the Analytical bioNanoTechnology Equipment Core (ANTEC) facility at the Simpson Querrey Institute (SQI). This document provides ANTEC-specific guidelines and supplements previous guidance from [Northwestern University](#) and its [Office for Research](#).

Reopening Schedule

ANTEC will reopen gradually in order to maintain social distancing and safe operations.

- As of August 2020, ANTEC allows walk-ups in the Chicago location (Lurie 11-216 and 11-210). No more than three people at a time are allowed in these labs, and no more than one person per instrument. When you reserve the equipment in NUCore, please also reserve the space around the equipment (free reservation). This will limit access to the equipment that is close to your workspace.
- Only one user at a time is permitted in the Nanosight space in J221 of the Technological Institute (Evanston). To reserve the Nanosight, please reserve the space around it and only during a time when the lab is open to Nanosight users. The space is open on the following schedule:
 - Daily: 6-8 a.m.
 - Monday: 3-6 p.m.
 - First and third Wednesday of each month: 3-6 p.m.
 - Thursday: 9 a.m.-noon; 3-6 p.m.
 - Sunday: 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

Rules and Regulations

ANTEC users must abide by the following procedures:

1. Users with fever, cough, cold, or other COVID-19-related symptoms are not allowed to enter the facility.
2. **Wear proper PPE.** All users must wear face masks, lab coats, and a fresh set of gloves in ANTEC labs. Bring extra gloves so you can sanitize and change them as needed.
3. **Maintain social distancing.** If you enter SQI corridors or labs and see someone walking toward you, please let them pass, then continue walking.
4. **Sanitize equipment, surfaces, and gloves.** We will provide sanitizer spray bottles near the equipment. Spray the liquid on the wipe and not directly on the instrument. Clean the surfaces before and after use, including keyboards, parts of the equipment you touched, and bench surfaces in proximity to the instrument. Do not remove or replace disinfectant solutions or other supplies.

5. Usage and training is limited to one person per instrument at a time.
6. Please contact [ANTEC staff](#) or use NUCore for equipment training.
7. In the event of a **technical or usage problem**, do not come to the facility to talk to staff. Contact ANTEC staff by text, phone call, or Zoom. Staff contact information will be provided upon the request for reservation. Landlines are available but should be reserved for emergencies. If you must use the landline, sanitize the phone after use.

Thank you for your cooperation.