

NJIT Pandemic Recovery Plan

Theatre Continuity: Phased Recovery Operations

NJIT faculty, staff, and students at theatre facilities must follow the specific social distancing and safety protocols including the use of personnel protective equipment (PPE) as required by the institutional, state and federal guidelines in the respective phase of the theatre continuity plan. State and national information regarding current conditions can be found at:

- New Jersey's COVID-19 information hub: <https://covid19.nj.gov/index.html>
- New Jersey's "The Road Back: Restoring Economic Health through Public Health": <https://www.nj.gov/governor/news/news/562020/approved/20200427b.shtml>
- White House Plan for Opening up America Again: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/Guidelines-for-Opening-Up-America-Again.pdf>

The following guidelines should be adapted with each respective phase for the recovery of theatre operations.

Recovery Phase 0: All non-essential theatre operations halted. Essential theatre operations follow strictest social distancing and safety protocols with only essential staff.

- Safety must be rigorously maintained with adequate access to PPE and other safety related supplies. Workshops and rehearsal spaces will not be authorized for access unless adequate safety supplies are identified as being available. Theatre Director must identify by name the people that will be considered essential personnel (including replacements/backups). During this time all essential operations (EO) must be approved by chair, dean, and provost through the emergency theatre continuity plan process currently in place.
- Any activity that requires face-to-face interactions is halted.
- Activities that can be conducted remotely should be continued to the extent possible.

Recovery Phase 1: Minimal theatre operations approved through chairs, deans and provost to pursue time-sensitive projects and involving students with graduation requirements.

- Requests for projects considered time-sensitive should be directed to departmental chairs. The dean and provost will provide guidance as needed.
- All operations at NJIT facilities in this phase must follow the highest possible level of social distancing implemented.
- Activities that can be conducted remotely should be continued to the extent possible.

Recovery Phase 2: Most theatre operations, whether sponsored externally or internally, may be restarted through the approval of department chairs using significant social distancing and safety protocols with restrictions on the number of participants and staff present in facilities at one time.

- The Phase 2 restart may require developing flexible work schedules, planning for supply chain issues, and preparing facilities in advance of need. To ensure social distancing requirements and to reduce density of personnel in university theatre spaces, the Director should consider permitting flexible access schedules, work shifts or staggered workdays. Under no circumstances should safety be sacrificed.

- Activities that can be conducted completely remotely or in addition to the on-campus operations should continue to be conducted in that manner.

Recovery Phase 3: Most theatre operations are restored with minimal social distancing and personnel safety protocols.

- Group activities with faculty, staff and students should be restricted and kept to a minimal size protecting any vulnerable participants. If possible, these activities should continue to be held online until we reach a state of full recovery.
- Other safety protocols must be strictly followed.
- Activities that can be conducted completely remotely or in addition to the on-campus operations should continue to be conducted in that manner.

Full Recovery: All theatre operations are restored fully with no specific social distancing requirements. However, all facility and personnel safety protocols must be strictly followed.

This document refers to operations conducted on the NJIT campus in Newark, NJ, including the physical campus and activities that have direct contact with individuals anywhere. Activities at partnering locations, such as Rutgers University Newark, must follow a similar phased approach informed by local conditions.