Frequently Asked Questions

Will my proposal expiration date be extended due to COVID-19?
- Yes, if the first cycle of your proposal was 2019-3, 2020-1, or 2020-2, it was extended by 1 cycle.
- If the first cycle of your proposal was 2020-3 or later, your proposal expiration date will not be extended.

How will proposals be prioritized?
- Time will be allocated with priority given to the highest rated proposals that can be run remotely.

Will I be able to come on-site to do my experiment?
- For the January – April (2022-1) cycle, we will continue to focus on allocating remote experiments but also welcome a limited number of users on-site to support more complex, highly rated experiments that cannot be run remotely. Up to 15 users per beamline will be permitted on-site during the 2022-1 cycle. Additional on-site users are at the discretion of the facility management. See the Beam Time Guidance document for more details.

What if my proposed experiment has been evaluated as not feasible due to the current conditions. Can I use the allocated time to conduct a different and simpler experiment?
- Yes, this is possible for highly rated experiments. Please discuss the experiment with the beamline scientist who will advise you whether the new experiment is feasible.

If I am conducting my experiment remotely instead of coming onsite, do I still have to submit a Safety Assessment Form (SAF)?
- Yes, users sending samples must also submit a SAF for each experiment, which you can do after your beamtime has been allocated. List the people sending samples as "remote" experimenters on the SAF.

Do I need a user appointment and training to conduct remote experiments?
- Yes, all users participating in remote experiments at NSLS-II must have a remote guest appointment and complete required training. New users or users with expiring appointments should register online in the BNL Guest Information System (GIS). For users with active appointments, no action is necessary. Cybersecurity and the Computer Use Agreement are the only two online training modules required for remote users. See the NSLS-II User Guide for details and access to these training modules.

Do I need to be vaccinated for COVID-19 in order to come onsite at BNL?
- Beginning November 17, 2021, all guests accessing the Brookhaven National Laboratory (BNL) site are required to provide proof of vaccination or proof of exemption from the vaccine requirement from their home institution. Those with proof of exemption will also be required to provide proof of weekly COVID-19 testing while on site. Full details can be found on the BNL Vaccination Requirements for Laboratory Guests website.

Can I send samples for remote data collection? If yes, how should I do this?

- If your proposal has been allocated time, and you have an approved SAF, refer to this web page about shipping samples. Please do not ship your samples until told to do so by the beamline scientist and include all samples in the SAF. It will help if you let the beamline staff know you have shipped your samples and include an expected arrival date and tracking number.

My questions were not answered here. Where should I direct my questions?

- Please send an email to nsls2user@bnl.gov and we will be happy to direct your question to the appropriate person.