

University of Pittsburgh
Center for Vaccine Research (CVR)
Regional Biocontainment Laboratory (RBL)

Access Guidelines

- The RBL can be classified as a **Collaborative/Shared Core Facility** where as:
 - Collaborations are among members
 - Not open access *or* fee for service
 - Development of new techniques are supported by grants/contracts or departmental funding
- CVR does not employ general research staff who are available to provide short or long-term project support to non-members (no fee for service support available).
- The RBL is designated as a Tier 1 Select Agent facility:
 - Any individual with access to the facility must receive suitability clearance and conduct all research activity within the guidelines of the University of Pittsburgh's Select Agent Program administered through the Department of Environment Health and Safety (EH&S) regardless of the agent in use.
- Individuals wishing to apply for grants/contracts must submit a Pre-Grant/Contract Form (located at https://www.cvr.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/Forms/pre-grant_contract_form_2021_3.dotx or <https://www.cvr.pitt.edu/facilities/regional-biocontainment-laboratory>) for review and approval by the RBL Director.
 - The Office of Sponsored Programs and Research Operations requires a signed approval letter from the RBL Director before they will submit any grant/contract proposing the use of the RBL.
- After securing project funding, but before access can be granted or any work can begin, the PI must:
 - Ensure that any individual entering the RBL has completed and passed all Select Agent clearances and training.
 - Have an active and fully executed RBL Facilities Access Agreement in place for activity requiring *in vitro* laboratory space.
- The RBL *in vitro* laboratory space is equipped with biosafety cabinets and CO2 incubators. Any additional equipment required (basic or specialized) must be furnished by the PI.