

# ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND SAFETY

## RESEARCH SAFETY

# LABORATORY SAFETY



## Personal Protective Equipment Requirements

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is essential for protecting against chemical, biological, radiological and mechanical hazards. PPE must be provided, properly used and maintained in a clean and reliable condition.

### Minimum PPE

The following are required in laboratories where hazards are present:

- Lab coat
- Appropriate gloves
- Safety glasses
- Long pants
- Closed-toe shoes

A lab coat is required when working with chemicals, biological agents, radioisotopes, corrosives, flammable materials, open flames or pyrophoric materials.

### Hazard Assessment & Training

A hazard assessment must be conducted to determine appropriate PPE. Principal investigators or lab supervisors are responsible for training personnel on:

- What PPE is required
- When it must be worn
- How to properly wear, maintain and dispose of it
- Training must be documented.

Additional protection such as goggles, face shields, hearing protection or respirators may be required depending on the task. Contact EHS for respiratory protection assessments and fit testing.

Wearing the right PPE, every time, is one of the simplest ways to prevent injury and maintain a safe research environment.



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