



UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY
LABORATORY EMERGENCY PLAN



ARE YOU READY FOR LAB?

Do you know about the required personal protective equipment (PPE) needed for your work in the laboratory at the University of Delaware? Each laboratory will have its own specific requirements, however the Department of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) recommends that researchers and students choose equipment that provides the optimal protection and comfort. Complete chemical safety information is available at <http://www.udel.edu/ehs/chemindex.html>. Complete biological safety information is available at <http://www.udel.edu/ehs/biosafety.html>. In general, EHS recommends the following. It will be necessary to meet with your supervisor, Faculty Member or TA to determine if additional PPE is required.

- **ANSI Approved Safety Glasses with Side Shields**
 - There are many options available for safety glasses. Any safety glasses used in a University laboratory must be ANSI approved and have side shields. Look for the Z87 notation to assure ANSI compliance. EHS recommends that users try on different styles and brands to find the best fitting and most comfortable style of safety glasses.
 - Safety glasses, at a minimum, are required at all times in any University laboratory or when an eye hazard exists.
- **ANSI Approved, Indirect Venting Chemical Splash Goggles**
 - Splash goggles are used for protection against chemical splashes, sprays, mists and/or impact. They are required in the Chemistry Teaching Laboratories and when there is a splash, spray or mist hazard.
 - EHS recommend the UVEX Stealth Goggles. These splash goggles meet the University's requirements and are very comfortable to wear for extended periods of time. The Stealth Other splash goggles are acceptable, provided they are indirect venting and are ANSI Z94.3 and Z87 approved.
- **Face Shields**
 - Face Shields shield the entire face and neck. They are used for protection against chemical splashes, sprays, mists and/or impact. They are used in conjunction with safety glasses or splash goggles.
- **Laboratory Coats**
 - Laboratory coats are not always required, however, they do provide protection from incidental hazardous material spills and splashes.
 - If your work involves open flames, flammable liquids or pyrophoric chemicals, EHS recommends you use a flame retardant laboratory coat. Contact EHS for more information.
 - If you only use small amounts of flammable liquids or do not use pyrophoric chemicals and open flames, EHS recommends that you use a polyester/cotton blend with knit cuffs. The fabric blend makes the coat comfortable to wear for extended period of times. The knit cuffs allow the chemical protective gloves to overlap and minimize any exposed skin.
- **Chemical Protective Gloves**
 - There is not one single glove that provides resistance to all chemicals. Each glove must be selected based on the task involved; therefore a job hazard analysis (JHA) must be completed to properly select the appropriate glove.
 - Refer to the Glove Manufacturer's Chemical Resistance Guide and Physical Performance Chart and select the glove type with the highest rating for the chemical and physical conditions. Also refer to the chemical label and the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS), which may recommend a specific glove type. Compare this information with the permeation information listed below. Assure that data is consistent. Contact Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) if there are conflicts between the data.

For more detailed information on the University's Laboratory Safety Program or with questions about personal protective equipment contact Kevin Eichinger, University Chemical Hygiene Officer, at 302-831-2103 or eich@udel.edu.