

LAB SAFETY



LAB SAFETY PHILOSOPHY

Central believes that all members of the campus community serve a critical role in our lab safety program through collaboration and steadfast accountability. We are committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace and conducting safe work practices for all our students, faculty, staff, contractors and visitors. We accomplish this through continual assessment and improvement in safety protocols as well as nurturing a strong positive safety culture that includes dedicated faculty and staff, safety training programs, safety monitors, and students who embrace these values.



LAB SAFETY

A commitment to ensure that all individuals in laboratories understand and utilize safe practices with knowledge of what to do in the event of an accident.

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Faculty, students and staff have various responsibilities to assure their own safety and the safety of others. They also must comply with federal, state, local and University regulations and are responsible for successfully completing required training and adhering to safe practices while working or doing research in laboratories.

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Faculty and Staff are responsible for ensuring that the facilities, equipment, materials, agents and means of supervision have been reviewed and approved for each lab's utilization. These standard operating procedures are imperative to maintain the highest level of safety in the laboratories.

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University Personnel Duties

Faculty Member / Professor in Charge. The PIC is a faculty member/s in either the professorial or research ranks overseeing a laboratory and has the primary responsibility for maintaining a safe laboratory environment. The PIC's are responsible for the preparation of training materials and safety plans. The PIC's are responsible for ensuring the administration of training materials and safety plans for all students who are assigned to their laboratories. The PIC will ensure each laboratory they are responsible for has an individual identified as the contact person in case of emergencies. The PIC in collaboration with Dean and Chair will identify professional or student staff who will monitor a lab when the PIC is not present.

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S). EH&S will monitor safety practices and training programs and review mechanisms that support safe laboratory practices. EH&S will assist the deans, department chairs and PIC's with the implementation of safety practices. EH&S will support the PIC's in the preparation of training materials and safety plans. EH&S will review and approve laboratory specific safety plans as part of the annual laboratory inspection process. All laboratories should have a supervisor when the PIC is not available. EH&S will evaluate labs that have been identified by the Dean to pose minimal to no risk to determine if the level of supervision may be reduced. Prior to a written confirmation from EH&S for reduced supervision, all labs will be supervised. EH&S will provide guidance and technical assistance to deans, department chairs and PIs in identifying, evaluating and correcting health and safety hazards. EH&S will also oversee and manage hazardous waste disposal services and chemical storage protocols.

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Before Lab Work, The Faculty and Staff Must:

- Identify hazards of equipment
- Identify hazards of materials
- Identify hazards of agents
- Review university regulations for laboratory utilization
- **Prescribe safety procedures**

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Before Lab Work, The Students Must Know:

- Hazards of equipment
- Hazards of materials
- Hazards of agents
- University regulations
- **Prescribed safety procedures**



STUDENT LAB ACCESS

Prior to being granted access to any laboratory when the PIC is not present, the following requirements must be successfully completed by the PIC or designee.

- Laboratory assessment
 - (In conjunction with EH&S)
- Prescribed safety procedures.
- Student training completed.
- Assigned laboratory supervisor
 - Faculty / Staff
 - Graduate Assistant / Student Assistant

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Compliance

Failure to comply with these safety guidelines may result in the loss of access to labs.

- Faculty and Staff should report to the Dean and EH&S any violations that they identify.
- Prescribed safety procedures must always be followed.
- No student should be working in a lab prior to completing the necessary training.
- Labs shall remain closed until the appropriate supervision is on site.

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