Pandemic Safety Ambassadors

University of Pittsburgh

Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management
Department of Environmental Health and Safety
April 2022
Agenda

1. Face Coverings / Guests on Campus
2. EH&S Website Review
Face Coverings / Campus Guests

- Face coverings remain optional for Pitt affiliates in University buildings.
- Face coverings still required in health care settings (University clinical spaces, Student Health, etc.)
- Face coverings also still required on University shuttles.
- Guests still required to be registered.
Overview of Environmental Health and Safety

Molly Stitt-Fischer, University Biosafety Officer
Department of Environmental Health and Safety
Welcome to Pitt!

• Our goal is to work with our researchers to maintain cutting-edge research programs by:
  • Supporting research through sharing information and best practices,
  • Providing services and advice, and
  • Ensuring University programs meet national standards, guidelines, and regulations
How Can EH&S Help You?

Department of Environmental Health and Safety

- HVAC Assessments
- Ergonomics and Noise Evaluations
- Laboratory Inspections
- Incident Response Procedures
- Material Transfer Agreements
- Safety Assurance Letters/Current Inspection Memos
- Division of Laboratory Animal Research (DLAR)
- Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC)
- Office of Sponsored Programs
- Biohazards Committee (BHC)
- Risk Assessments for Biological, Chemical, and Physical Hazards in Animals
- Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC)
- Training and Occupational Health Programs
- Outside Use Area Review
- Animal Transport Routes
- Occ Health for Animal Research
- Respirator Evaluations
- Treatment of Lab/Animal Related Exposures
- Agent-specific Occ Health Programs
- MyHealth@WorkPitt
- Required vaccines
- MPTP
- BSL-3 Occ Health Program
- Chemical Hygiene Officers Committee (CHO)
Virtual Tour of www.ehs.pitt.edu
Emergency Information: Fire Safety and Emergency Evacuations

https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/fire-safety

Fire Safety

Fire Safety Guidance

IF YOU DISCOVER SMOKE OR FIRE:
- Leave area by exit route
- Close doors as you go
- PULL FIRE ALARM
- Evacuate away from building
- Call 412-624-2121 (from a safe area)

COVID-19 Emergency Evacuation Guidance and Information as of July 13, 2020

The following pertains to any unexpected emergency alarm requiring evacuation from the building. First and foremost is protecting your life. Remain calm and EVACUATE. Social distancing signage is temporary. Follow EXIT signs and use stairs.

If you are not in immediate danger, locate and don a face covering prior to evacuation; and maintain a 6 foot distance from others as much as possible during evacuation. Proceed to
Emergency Information: Injuries

https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/injuries-pittsburgh-campus%20
Emergency Information: Spills

https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/spill-response

Spill Response

Chemical Spill
Spill kits with instructions, absorbents, reactants, and protective equipment should be available to clean up minor spills. A minor chemical spill is one that the laboratory staff is capable of handling safely without the assistance of safety and emergency personnel. All other chemical spills are considered major.

Biological Spill
Biological spills outside biological safety cabinets will generate aerosols that can be dispersed in the air throughout the laboratory. Appropriate protective equipment should be available to clean up minor spills. A minor biological spill is one that the laboratory staff is capable of handling safely without the assistance of safety and emergency personnel. All other biological spills are considered major.

Radiation Spill
Spreading of radiation beyond the spill area can easily occur by the movement of personnel involved in the spill or cleanup effort. Prevent spread by confining movement of personnel until they have been monitored and found free of contamination.
New Investigators

https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/openingclosing-lab

PI Responsibilities: https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/lab-safety/lab-responsibilities

Opening/Closing a Lab

Opening a Research Laboratory

All new faculty and staff working in a research laboratory should review the SOP documents below.

Chemical Waste Disposal (PDF)
Infectious Waste Disposal (PDF)
Laboratory Attire (PDF)
Laboratory Signage (PDF)

Anyone conducting research at Pitt is required to complete training prior to beginning a project, regardless of funding source. Refer to the Research Training Table for training requirements. Principal Investigators are required to assure training of laboratory personnel for each work assignment.

Each laboratory has its own unique set of hazards. PI's must determine and document safe procedures and necessary controls. Contact EH&S for assistance in evaluating a lab's hazards and for help in maintaining a safe laboratory.
Most laboratory work requires Chemical Hygiene, Hazard Communication, and BBP Training.
Laboratory Inspection Program

Contact Safety@ehs.pitt.edu to schedule a new investigator visit

- The Laboratory Safety Group lead for your Department will contact you and schedule a visit.
- Educational and orientation visit to share information on lab setup, chemical storage, chemical use, certification of chemical fume hoods and biosafety cabinets, waste disposal, and much more
- Self-audits and blank inspection reports are available as a pre-check and your lab safety specialist will use these documents as a guide during their visit
  - https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/sites/default/files/docs/LabInspectionReport-BSL2.doc
Many research-specific programs and guidelines are available under the “Lab Safety” tab at www.ehs.pitt.edu

Laboratory Safety

Pitt has developed safety policies and procedures to promote a safe work environment. Refer to the University Safety Manual for specific guidance regarding your work environment.

- **Pandemic Preparedness**
  - Safety related actions for research staff to consider during the Coronavirus pandemic.

- **Lab Responsibilities**
  - Each laboratory has its own unique set of hazards. Risk Assessment and Hazard Identification is a fundamental function for Principal Investigators in any laboratory.

- **Chemical Hygiene**
  - The Chemical Hygiene Program describes proper practices, procedures, equipment, and facilities that function together to help ensure individuals are protected from the effects of hazardous chemicals in their work area.

- **Biological Safety Program**
University Safety Manual

If you have a question or need more detailed information on a specific topic check the Safety Manual (https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/manual)
Waste Disposal

https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/waste-disposal

Waste Disposal

EH&S is responsible for the management of regulated wastes at Pitt. No lab chemicals or untreated biological wastes should be placed in general trash, flushed down drains or otherwise inappropriately disposed. Contact EH&S at 412-624-9505 with questions regarding proper disposal procedures.

Biological Waste

All biological, infectious, and chemotherapeutic waste that is generated at the University must be decontaminated and disposed of properly.

Chemical Waste

The proper disposal of waste chemicals at the University of Pittsburgh is necessary to meet our stewardship and regulatory compliance requirements. EH&S is available to provide technical guidance, assistance, and additional information.

Controlled Substances

Controlled substances that are expired or are no longer of use to your research must be disposed of through a reverse distributor.
Chemical Waste Pick Up Calendar
Need Help?

Safety@ehs.pitt.edu
(412) 624-9505

https://www.ehs.pitt.edu/people%20