

SAFETY FOCUS

BIOSAFETY TRAINING

Biosafety training is of vital importance to ensure workers understand how to protect themselves, the community, and the environment from exposures and/or releases of infectious or potentially infectious agents.

WHAT: Biosafety training educates personnel on how to work safely with infectious or potentially infectious agents or materials. General training is provided by Environmental Health and Safety (EHS), while protocol-specific training is provided by the Principal Investigator or Supervisor.

WHY: Biosafety training ensures that individuals safely handle and dispose of hazardous biological materials and understand the regulations that apply to work with these materials. These trainings are designed to keep individuals working in the lab safe, teach them how to respond in the event of an emergency, and how to prevent releases of infectious agents into the environment.

WHO: All personnel working with hazardous biological materials are required to complete trainings conducted by EHS personnel and by their Principal investigator/Supervisor at the time of assignment and periodically thereafter. The type and frequency of training will depend on the agents/materials being used and the requirements of the facility where the lab is located. Work with hazardous biological materials must be approved by the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), and documentation of training will be required for approval.

All individuals who work with or could potentially be exposed to human blood, tissues, or other potentially infectious materials, including human and non-human

primate cell lines, are required to complete Bloodborne Pathogens (BBP) Training on an annual basis. All individuals who work with materials that require Biosafety Level-2 (BSL-2) containment and practices must complete one of the EHS BSL-2 classes at the time of assignment and at least every 3 years thereafter: work at BSL-3 requires annual re-training.

Principal Investigators/Supervisors must provide and document laboratory-specific training at the time of assignment and at least annually thereafter. This training must include a risk assessment for the agents being used in the lab (including routes of infection, signs and symptoms of exposure and options for vaccinations or post-exposure prophylaxis), engineering and work practice controls, PPE requirements, spill clean-up procedures, and post-exposure procedures.

HOW: The Biosafety Team has created a matrix to provide information on the training programs available from EHS (including general laboratory safety training requirements), and includes information on how to register for the training class. You may access the IBC website at <https://ibc.utah.edu/training.php>

