



LAB SAFETY TIPS

Questions every lab worker should know

NOTE: There are some new requirements starting this semester you should be aware of before starting work.

- Where do you store your lab safety plan (which contains both the injury illness and prevention plan and the chemical hygiene plan), lab safety plan supplement, standard operating procedures (SOPs), safety data sheets (SDSs), and training records?
- Have you signed SOPs for hazardous chemicals you use or hazardous operations you perform (if an SOP is required)? This is required before starting work.
- Where would you go to find out if an SOP is required?
HINT: See ehs.ucmerced.edu/node/75 and look at the list of 500 chemicals. Also anything with an H300, H310, H330, H340, H341, H350, H360, H361 code on the SDS.
- Have you taken Lab Safety Fundamentals and are currently trained for the duties you are performing? This is also required before you start work.
- Are all chemicals properly labeled and stored?
This means full name and hazards, segregated hazard classes, and not stored on the floor.
- Are waste bottles kept closed?
- Are sharps in a rigid container that isn't overfilled?
- If someone is injured, what do you do after seeking medical attention?
HINT: Serious injuries (fatality, amputation, concussion, anything requiring hospitalization) must be reported to EH&S as soon as possible but within 8 hours.
- If respirators are used, have users been fit tested and medically evaluated?
- If dust masks are used, have users signed appendix D of OSHA's respiratory protection standard and returned a copy to EH&S?
This form can be found at ehs.ucmerced.edu/research-safety/personal-protective-equipment-ppe

REMEMBER, CAL-OSHA CAN VISIT YOUR LAB AT ANY TIME. Make sure you can answer all the questions listed above in the affirmative and have met all new requirements before starting work!

