



Outfit for Safety Addendum

PPE Usage & Limitations

You will be provided with a Laboratory Hazard Assessment that will indicate the hazardous activities in your workplace. The Laboratory Hazard Assessment and associated Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) will determine the proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) necessary to perform those activities safely beyond the other engineering or administrative hazard controls implemented. It is your responsibility to correctly wear the indicated PPE. Each type of PPE that you use in the laboratory has its own specific usage and limitations. The following matrix briefly explains each type of PPE described in the [“Outfit for Safety”](#) video and its limitations.

PPE	Usage	Limitations
Safety Glasses	Are intended to protect the wearer's eyes when working with materials that may fly towards the researcher's face, impacting the eyes with solid materials that may damage the eyeball.	Must meet the requirements specified in the American National Standards Institute Z87.1-1989 or later standard.
Chemical Splash Goggles	Are intended to protect the wearer's eyes if there is a risk of being splashed in the face with hazardous chemicals.	Must meet the requirements specified in the American National Standards Institute Z87.1-1989 or later standard.
Face Shield	Is intended to protect the entire face or portions of it from impact hazards such as flying fragments, objects, large chips, and particles.	Must meet the requirements specified in the American National Standards Institute Z87.1-1989 or later standard and be worn in combination with safety glasses or chemical splash goggles. Not intended to be worn alone.
Traditional Lab Coat (Cotton or cotton/ polyester blend)	Is intended to protect the wearer and the wearer's clothes from incidental splashes of hazardous materials found in research labs.	This coat should not be used while working with bloodborne pathogens in quantities large enough to soak through to the skin, flammable materials greater than 1 L, or smaller quantities of flammable materials when there is a risk of ignition.
Barrier Lab Coat (Made mostly of polyester)	Is intended to protect the wearer when there is a risk of splash from blood borne pathogens or other biohazardous materials.	This coat should not be used when there is a risk of fire.
Flame Resistant Lab Coat (6 Oz/yd Nomex is best)	Is intended to protect the wearer when there is a risk of catching personal garments or skin on fire. FR clothing will resist ignition, prevent the spread of fire over the garment, and quickly self-extinguish following removal of the ignition source, such as a Bunsen burner.	FR garments are not designed to be “fire-proof,” nor are they designed to eliminate the risk of burns. If FR clothing is splashed or contaminated with a flammable substance and ignited the substance will continue to burn on the surface of the garment until the fuel is exhausted. This garment is not fluid resistant and should be immediately removed and replaced (or laundered) if it comes in contact with spilled substances.



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Laboratory Coat Care Instructions

Small splashes of contamination should first be blotted before placing the coat into the laundry. Grossly contaminated laboratory coats should be treated as hazardous waste. Carefully insert your contaminated coat into a leak-proof bag while wearing gloves to protect yourself from the contamination. Properly doff your gloves and dispose of them. Next, securely close the bag and immediately affix a completed hazardous waste label onto the bag. Contact your campus EH&S to arrange for the item to be picked up during the next hazardous waste pick-up.

Your laboratory coat should be retired when it is permanently soiled, notably stained, perforated with holes, and/or otherwise damaged beyond repair. The lab coat should be removed from the laundry inventory and destroyed by cutting it in half with scissors.

Do not apply your own embroidery, emblem or patch to an FR laboratory coat without first considering the placement. Large patches should not be applied near the face or head. Some campuses may have their coats embroidered, but this is done in consultation with the campus EH&S office to ensure it does not compromise the integrity of the lab coat.

Laboratory Coat Laundering

Each campus has one or more of the following models for laundering laboratory coats:

- Hamper to Hanger: Dirty coats go into a hamper that is picked up by the laundry service. The clean coat then is returned to its designated return location on a hanger along with other clean coats.
- Pre-labeled mailers: Dirty coats go into a pre-labeled mailer and are placed into campus mail. The coat is then cleaned by the laundry service and delivered back to the laboratory in an envelope.
- Mixed: A combination of the options above; dirty coats go out by mail and are returned to a central location on a hanger; or dirty coats go out in a hamper and are returned via the mail.

Contact your campus EH&S or use the following link to learn more about the PPE laundry model at your location:

http://ucanr.edu/sites/ucehs/Lab_Safety_Training/PPE/

Obtain and Dispose of Protective Eyewear

Protective eyewear can be obtained through your supervisor, department, or campus EH&S. You **should** obtain and use the eyewear that has been identified by your location hazard assessment, standard operating procedure, or supervisor's instructions.

Clean your safety glasses or goggles daily with a soft cloth and store them in a clean dry place where they won't be damaged. Inspect your glasses or goggles to make sure the lenses are firmly attached and undamaged. Make sure the face seal around goggles remains flexible and provides a good seal to your face, the elastic band is not damaged, and the vent hole covers remain in place. Replace scratched, pitted, broken, bent, or ill-fitting safety eyewear.

Inspect your face shield for proper attachment of the lens to the headgear. Replace the face shield lens when it becomes scratched, damaged, or fogged. Replace the entire face shield when the headgear is no longer functional.

If your eyewear should become damaged or no longer functional, discard it in the regular trash. If the eyewear is contaminated with a hazardous material, try to decontaminate them before placing them into the trash, or consider sending them to your campus hazardous waste. Contact your EH&S to discuss your options.