

Snapshots!

**Biosafety Program**

[**http://ehs.psu.edu/biosafety/overview**](http://ehs.psu.edu/biosafety/overview)

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**Who does this program apply to?**

* University employees, students, and visitors who handle or supervise individuals who handle biohazardous materials.
  + Laboratory researchers and those who work with them are most likely to be involved.
  + Biohazardous materials are defined as:
* Chemical carcinogens, toxic/infectious materials, or oncogenic viruses used in conjunction with animals.
* Infectious agents requiring handling conditions above Biosafety Level 1.
* Recombinant DNA.
* Human blood and blood products, body fluids, and/or human tissue.
* Toxins produced by living organisms (>1 mg of pure toxin or solutions with concentrations of >1mg/ml).
* [Select Agents and Toxins](http://www.selectagents.gov/SelectAgentsandToxinsList.html)
* [USDA Restricted Animal Pathogens](https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/ourfocus/importexport/organism-vectors)
* Any research that requires a permit from the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS).
* Wild Poliovirus or materials that may contain wild poliovirus.
* Whenever a contractual agreement or grant proposal requires Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) approval for the safe handling of a biological or chemical product.

**What are the key requirements of this program?**

* Supervisors must:
  + [Apply](http://www.research.psu.edu/orp/biohazardous/applications) for authorization to work with biohazardous material which may only be granted by the [Office for Research Protections](http://www.research.psu.edu/orp/).
  + Be responsible for biohazardous material in their laboratory and ensure that safe work practices are followed.
* Biohazardous material used in conjunction with animals also require a written safety protocol.
* Ensure that infectious waste is disposed of properly, [SY29](https://policy.psu.edu/policies/SY29) - *Infectious Waste Disposal*.
* Recordkeeping Requirements:
  + Annually updated inventory of all biohazards BSL2 and above

**For additional information:**

* Penn State Use of Regulated and Biohazardous Materials in Research and Instruction Policy RP11

<https://policy.psu.edu/policies/rp11>

* PSU Office for Research Protections

<http://www.research.psu.edu/orp/>

* NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines

<https://osp.od.nih.gov/biotechnology/nih-guidelines/>