



*Experience the difference in learning!
A2O is to the brain, what H₂O is to the body!*

Chemistry Laboratory Safety Guidelines (page 1 of 2)

Emergencies: In case of emergency, go next door and get another instructor.

Conditions of your work area: You should maintain a work area that is free of unnecessary equipment, books, coats, etc. Personal belongings can be kept in another part of the room while lab is in session. All chemicals, glassware, and equipment should be returned to the proper location at the conclusion of a lab session. At the conclusion of lab, clean all glassware and tabletops.

Chemical Spills: All spills should be cleaned up immediately, using proper procedures. Tell the teacher if you have spilled anything and they will tell you how to clean it up.

Eye protection: Safety goggles must be worn at all times when in lab. Contacts are not recommended, but the American Chemical Society allows them to be worn if you have proper safety goggles. You must wear goggles over your prescription glasses.

Pipetting Liquids: Always use a rubber suction bulb attached to the pipette. NEVER USE YOUR MOUTH!!

Heating Materials: Make sure that a boiling stone or stir bar is contained in all liquids before heating. When heating a test tube, point the tube away from yourself and others. Never heat a closed or sealed container. Never put you face over anything being heated. Never heat a flammable substance over an open flame, use a hot plate. Never leave an experiment that is being heated unattended.

Open Flames: Only have open flames in the lab when instructed to do so by your instructor.

Eating and drinking: No eating or drinking or gum chewing. No candy of any kind. Contamination of these substances can occur during lab and become toxic. Never taste any chemicals in the lab.

Fire: If something in the lab catches fire, call out “FIRE!” and move away from the flames. Tell the instructor immediately. If you are on fire, DO NOT RUN. Never use a fire extinguisher on a person. If you are in a lab when a person catches on fire, help them out as best you can.

Chemical spills on your body: IF you spill or splash a chemical on your body rinse the area as quickly as possible. Have your partner notify the instructor.

Health conditions: If you have allergies, chemical sensitivities, have a health condition that may impact the safety of yourself or others (seizures, tremors, fainting spells, etc.) let the instructor know as soon as possible. Also, if you become pregnant, let the instructor know so that proper safety precautions can be implemented.

MSDS Safety Sheets: All chemicals have MSDS sheets. Under the OSHA Hazard Communications Standard (29CFR 1910.1200), all personnel working with hazardous materials must have access to the Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) or safety data sheets (SDS), and be trained in the safe handling of the material. You should familiarize yourself with the properties of any chemicals before working with them. The MSDS sheets should be quickly available to emergency responders.



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Chemistry Laboratory Safety Guidelines (page 2 of 2)

Lab attire:

Always wear eye protection (goggles)
DO NOT wear sandals or open-toe shoes.
If you have long hair, pull it back in a bun or pony-tail.
If you have long baggy sleeves, roll them up or tie them up.
DO NOT wear nylon hosiery.
DO NOT wear shorts, short skirts, low pants, or other clothing that leaves excess skin exposed.
All skin that would normally be covered by a below the knee length lab coat, needs to be covered when wearing street clothing in the lab.

This safety policy is by no means a complete and absolute statement of laboratory safety instructions. Your instructor will periodically point out other safety precautions.

These procedures are modified from Appendix II, Southeastern Louisiana Department of Chemistry and Physics Safety Manual.