

Responsibilities of the Principle Investigator (PI)

The PI is responsible for the safety and health of all personnel working in his or her lab. The PI may delegate safety duties but remains responsible for ensuring that the delegated safety duties are adequately performed. The PI's responsibilities are:

1. Knowing all applicable safety and health regulations, training and reporting requirements and standard operating procedures associated with chemical safety for regulated substances.
2. Identifying hazardous work or research processes in the lab, determining safe procedures and controls and implementing standard safety procedures.
3. Consulting with the safety and radiation unit regarding the use of higher risk materials or conducting higher risk experimental procedures so that special safety precautions may be administered.
4. Ensuring laboratory or other personnel under his/her supervision have access to and are familiar with all safety regulations.
5. Training all laboratory or other personnel he/she supervises to work safely with hazardous materials.
6. Maintain written laboratory protocols, emphasizing safe handling of hazardous materials.
7. Ensuring the availability of all appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) (lab coats, gloves, eye protection, etc.) and ensuring the PPE is maintained.
8. Informing facilities personnel, other non-laboratory personnel and any outside contractors of potential laboratory-related hazards when they are required to work in the laboratory environment.
9. Promptly notifying the safety and radiation unit should he/she become aware that work place engineering controls (e.g., fume hoods) and safety equipment (e.g., emergency showers/eyewashes, fire extinguishers, etc.) become non-operational.
10. Promptly reporting accidents and injuries to the safety and radiation unit. Serious injuries **MUST** be reported immediately. Any doubt as to whether an injury is serious should favor reporting.