



LAB SAFETY RULES

These **Laboratory Safety Rules** are the minimum requirements when working in laboratories at the University of Lethbridge. Follow these rules to safeguard your health as well as University Community. Additional lab safety rules for specific hazards (chemical, radioactive, biohazardous, cryogenic materials, lasers, X-ray equipment) are provided in other lab safety manuals and documents.

- 1. Work only with materials when you know their flammability, reactivity, toxicity, safe handling, disposal, and emergency procedures. Read the SDS and work procedures PRIOR to starting work.**
- 2. Know the locations of first aid kit, spill kit, fire extinguisher, nearest alarm pull stations, emergency exits, and emergency eyewash/showers. Exits and aisles must be kept clear at all times.**
- 3. Don't eat or drink in the lab. Do not bring or store food, drinks in the laboratory.**
- 4. Wear appropriate full-coverage clothing and footwear to protect exposed skin. Long hair must be tied back. Do not wear loose jewelry and rings.**
- 5. You must wear a laboratory coat and personal protective equipment in the laboratory.**
- 6. Wear eye/face protection and protective gloves appropriate for the hazards of your work (e.g. chemical resistant/heat/cold proof gloves; safety glasses/goggles/face shield).**
- 7. Perform procedures with volatile, flammable, toxic or strong smelling materials in a fume hood.**
- 8. Wash hands after removing gloves, and before leaving the laboratory.**
- 9. Always remove gloves and laboratory coats before leaving the laboratory.**
- 10. Use secondary containment when transporting hazardous materials.**
- 11. Perform a safety check after each experiment - ensure gas, water, flames, vacuum, and hot plates are turned off. Decontaminate work areas after using hazardous materials.**
- 12. Label all containers, chemical storage areas, and waste appropriately.**
- 13. Dispose of waste in accordance with the Hazardous Materials Disposal Procedures.**
- 14. Report all incidents and near misses to your supervisor or instructor.**
- 15. Only allow authorized individuals in the laboratory**