

Laboratory Inspections

In keeping with the National Research Council's recommendations on laboratory safety as codified by OSHA in 29CFR1910.1450, and FSU policies, EH&S has implemented a laboratory safety inspection and audit program. Safety and compliance issues are addressed through:

- [EHS laboratory safety inspections](#)
- [Laboratory self-audits/inspections](#)
- [EH&S issue-specific audits](#)
- [Audits and inspections performed by outside regulatory agencies](#)
- [Laboratory Safety Manual](#)

Laboratory safety inspections and audits are performed at the University to achieve a number of goals. The laboratory inspection is an important tool for identifying potentially hazardous situations in laboratories and communicating safety and compliance information to researchers. EH&S staff perform inspections and provide observations to researchers regarding materials storage, equipment use, disposal practices and adherence to good laboratory practices. Laboratory audits, which are in-depth reviews of laboratory activities and processes, are valuable endeavors to assist researchers in managing experimental protocols safely, and in monitoring and mitigating the impact of research activities on students, staff, faculty and the environment. Laboratory self-audits are essential to maintaining a safe laboratory work place and identifying and mitigating hazards to avoid injuries, hazardous materials exposures, or accidents.

Unsafe conditions that warrant immediate attention will be noted in a memo to the PI with a date by which the deficiency must be corrected and EH&S notified. All other safety deficiencies or regulatory violations must be corrected within 30 days after receiving the laboratory inspection memo. Researchers may contact the [Laboratory Safety Office](#) for clarification of the inspection finding or for guidance in correcting deficiencies. The department chair is notified of all inspection deficiencies, and the department should assist researchers in resolving safety concerns and meeting regulations. If the PI and the department do not correct inspection violations, a memo will be sent to the Dean and/or Vice President for Research notifying them of the regulatory violation or the unsafe condition.

Additional Information and Resources

- [OSHA 29CFR1910.1450 \(Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories\)](#), The Laboratory Standard
- [OSHA 29CFR1910.1200 \(Hazard Communication\)](#)
- [Prudent Practices in the Laboratory, National Research Council, National Academy Press, 1995.](#)
- [Florida Administrative Code 64E-16 \(Biomedical Waste\)](#)
- [Florida Administrative Code 64F-12 \(Regulations for Drugs, Devices and Cosmetics\)](#), Prescription Drugs and Diethyl Ether
- [Florida Administrative Code 64E-5 \(Control of Ionizing Radiation Hazards\)](#)
- State of Florida Radioactive Materials License 32-10
- [National Institutes of Health Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant DNA Molecules](#)

- [OSHA 29CFR1910.1030 \(Bloodborne Pathogens\)](#)
- [Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, \(BMBL\)](#)