

LAB SAFETY AWARENESS WEEK

Personal Protective Equipment and General Lab Attire



Personal protective equipment (PPE) helps to minimize exposure to hazards that cause serious workplace injuries and illnesses.

These injuries and illnesses may result from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical, mechanical, or other workplace hazards.

- Basic protection for most laboratories includes gloves, safety glasses, shoes and proper shirts/pants. Closed-toed shoes are essential in a laboratory to protect yourself from chemical splashes or broken glass.
- Chemical splash goggles or face shields should be worn when there is a risk of splashing hazardous materials or flying particles.
- Knowing the differences between types of [gloves](#) and [eyewear](#) ensures proper protection during laboratory activities.
- **Do not wear any PPE or lab coats in public spaces!** PPE should only be worn inside of a laboratory work area and should be removed before entering hallways, elevators, cafeteria, shared spaces, etc.
- If respirators are to be used for protection against airborne contaminants, equipment listed and approved by NIOSH may be used if properly selected and fit-tested. Contact EH&S to enroll in our [Respiratory Protection Program](#).