

Safetygram

NCI Frederick

ISM-139

Laboratory Personnel

March 2013

Laboratory Clothing

The NCI-Frederick updated the Personal Protective Equipment Policy (PPE) in 2013. The policy covers all employees, students, and visitor who have the potential for exposure. Below is a description of the current laboratory clothing requirements. Supervisors are responsible for making sure their employees have the required PPE and follow the policy. For further information please review the updated PPE policy below: [http://home.ncifcrf.gov/ehs/uploadedFiles/C-11%20Personal%20Protective%20Equip\(2\).pdf](http://home.ncifcrf.gov/ehs/uploadedFiles/C-11%20Personal%20Protective%20Equip(2).pdf)

- **Lab Coats:** A fully fastened lab coat shall be worn at all times when working or observing work in the laboratory. This is particularly important for personnel wearing skirts, dresses or other warm weather attire. Shorts are not recommended when working with chemicals or biologicals. Fire-resistant lab coats shall be utilized when working with pyrophoric or highly flammable materials. Laboratory coats shall not be worn outside of the laboratory or lab corridors.
- **Long Hair:** Long hair shall be restrained when operating equipment with exposed moving components or when working with chemicals or biologicals. Unrestrained long hair can easily become ensnared in moving machinery or contaminated.
- **Shoes:** Open toed shoes, sandals, flip flops, or any footwear with exposed skin or holes are not permitted in the laboratory. Steel toed shoes can be purchased if the work situation requires it, with your supervisor's approval. Below is a link to information on the Shoemobile: <http://home.ncifcrf.gov/ehs/uploadedFiles/Shoemobile%20Schedule%20for%20CY12.pdf>
- **Safety Glasses, Goggles and Face Shields:** ANSI Z87.1 safety glasses are required when working or observing work in the laboratory. Prescription eyewear may be obtained with the approval of your supervisor, at no cost to the employee. <http://home.ncifcrf.gov/ehs/uploadedFiles/Eyewear%20schedule%20for%20CY12.pdf> Safety glasses provide minimal protection from chemical or biological splashes. For the best protection against splashes, safety goggles or face shield shall be worn over safety glasses. For more information please see Safetygram 154.
- **Gloves:** A wide variety of gloves are available depending on the particular needs of laboratory personnel. The amount of dexterity and the level of protection vary between gloves. Gloves shall be selected to insure adequate protection against biological, chemical, radioactive, and physical hazards. Leather gloves are best when handling heavy or rough objects. Surgical or examination gloves provide an adequate barrier for some tasks; however, specialized nitrile, butyl, or other types of gloves may be needed for prolonged contact with many chemicals. Latex gloves should never be worn for protection from chemicals. Remember, not all gloves will provide an adequate level of protection from chemicals. You may consult the glove manufacturer, the MSDS, or EHS for glove chemically compatibility.

For further information, please contact EHS at x1451.