

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY SAN MARCOS  
Safety, Health & Sustainability

**CHEMICAL HYGIENE PLAN  
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**SCOPE and APPLICATION**

This program applies to all laboratories engaged in the use of chemicals defined as hazardous by this standard, employees and students who may be exposed to the chemicals. Defining criteria of **laboratory** are:

- Chemical manipulations are carried out on a small scale;
- Multiple chemical procedures are used;
- Protective laboratory practices and equipment are available and commonly used;
- The procedures involved are not part of a production process whose function is to produce commercial quantities of materials.

**Authority: FEDERAL and STATE REGULATIONS**

**Federal**

Federal regulations were published in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 29, Part 1910, and were effective January, 1991.

**State**

California Division of Occupational Safety and Health, Department of Industrial Relations (Cal-OSHA). State regulations were published in the California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5191, "Occupational Exposure to Hazardous Chemicals in Laboratories", and were effective June, 1991.

**POLICY**

Under the University's Illness and Injury Prevention Program, and as outlined in this plan, it is the policy of the University to maintain, insofar as it is reasonably within its control to do so, campus laboratory environments for faculty, staff, students and the public that will not adversely affect their health and safety nor subject them to avoidable risks of accidental injury or illness. No student or other worker shall be required to perform any task which is determined to be unsafe or unreasonably hazardous.

To accomplish this, departments shall provide facilities and equipment that meet all federal, state and local (where applicable) safety laws and regulations, and shall promulgate appropriate policies, standards and procedures for governing campus health and safety programs.

While the overall responsibility for campus health and safety rests with the President, the immediate responsibility for laboratory or hazardous area workplace health and safety belongs to each campus employee who performs a supervisory or responsible person (Faculty for instructional labs & Principal Investigators for research labs) role. In addition, individual employees are responsible for preventing laboratory accidents. Accordingly, all faculty and staff are to ensure that safe and healthful conditions and practices are provided and followed within the areas under their control, and all members of the campus community are to cooperate fully with all aspects of the various campus health and safety programs.

### **The CSUSM CHEMICAL HYGIENE PLAN**

The regulations themselves are extensive and require employers to develop and implement a written Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP). The plan should be capable of protecting employees from health hazards associated with hazardous chemicals in laboratory environments and keeping employee exposures below permissible limits. This is a regulatory agency mandated program as outlined in the above listed federal and state regulations. From a practical standpoint, the primary intention of the California State University Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP) is to delineate policies and procedures which protect people and the environment from exposures/contamination, and simultaneously satisfy the legal mandate.

The CHP was drafted by the Safety office (EH&OS), revised and approved by the CSUSM Chemical Hygiene Committee in September 1993 (Chemistry and Biology Departments and EH&OS) and each year there significant changes recommended by the safety office (EH&OS, EHS, RM&S, SR&S and then SH&S). The CHP has been carefully designed not to restrict the ability of professors, principal investigators, technicians and other laboratory workers to either instruct students or perform research. Provision has been made for periodic or ad hoc review and revision by the CSUSM Chemical Hygiene Committee.

CEW:sq

9/93

Revision RF 01/ 26/ 2013

Revision RF 08/31/2017

Revision by RF 09/24/2018

Revision by RF 10/24/2018