

Minimum Personal Protective Standard for Duquesne University - Biology

All individuals entering a research laboratory must wear the following protective apparel:

1. Lab coats: Appropriate lab coats that protect against possible hazards, such as splashes or spill, are required at all times while anyone in a research laboratory is working with **hazardous** chemicals (see below). Lab coats may be worn within all areas of each building, except designated eating areas. Lab coats must not be worn outside the building at any time.
2. Safety glasses: Appropriate eye protection is required at all times while anyone in a research laboratory is working with **hazardous** chemicals (see below). While engaged in desk work, which is isolated or protected, safety glasses do not have to be worn.
3. Clothing: Clothing that does not protect against possible laboratory hazards, such as shorts, cutoffs, and skirts above the knee are not permitted in any science laboratory. Loose clothing or long hair must be constrained while in the science laboratory.
4. Shoes: High heels, sandals, open-toed shoes, or slippers are not permitted in any science laboratory.

It is laboratory supervisor's responsibility to require appropriate additional personal protection and protective equipment beyond the above minimal standard in line with the hazards of the work performed in the laboratory and to enforce such standards.

Ancillary personnel, such as housekeepers, facilities management, etc. will abide by the above minimum personal protection standard.

Hazardous chemicals in common use in biology laboratories include:

Phenol

Chloroform

Concentrated acids (e.g. sulfuric, hydrochloric, acetic, nitric acids)

Concentrated bases (e.g. sodium hydroxide, ammonium hydroxide)

Radioactive isotopes

Boiling liquids in glass

Other chemicals designated by the lab supervisor