



BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, SAFETY
AND SUSTAINABILITY

Guidance for Students, Faculty and Staff regarding health concerns when working with and around potentially hazardous materials

Revision 3, March 26, 2013

Boise State University (“Boise State”) conducts risk analysis and hazard identification for all laboratory course work conducted on campus and for all occupational tasks that require the use of potentially hazardous materials. Through analysis, determinations are made as to the personal safety of the individuals who might be affected. Analysis may determine that certain work be completed using engineering controls, such as fume hoods, glove boxes, or paint booths. Other determinations may require that certain personal protective equipment (“PPE”) be worn when using specific chemicals or products for given tasks. Through appropriate risk analysis, and hazard identification, if individuals are performing the tasks correctly, using appropriate engineering controls along with appropriate PPE, exposure to potentially hazardous materials in our lab and work environments should be minimal.

In the event that a student, faculty or staff member self-discloses that they are pregnant, trying to become pregnant, or that they have a medical condition that causes them concern when exposed to certain chemicals and or biological agents, the department in question at Boise State will respond accordingly per their request. At the individual’s request Boise State will:

- Generate a list of all chemicals and or microorganisms used in the laboratory course or used for a specific occupational task;
- Provide copies of all Material Safety Data Sheets for all chemicals/products used in the lab or workplace in question;
- Note the quantities of chemicals/products being used;
- Determine the duration of exposure/use;
- List the personal protective equipment available or suggested to be worn;
- Include all engineering and administrative controls being used to protect individuals from; chemicals/biological agents, i.e., fume hoods, glove boxes, paint booths, time etc.

Boise State highly recommends that each concerned individual take the information provided to them to their personal physician to discuss their concerns and have their physician evaluate the risks based on the patient’s needs.

If you are or think you might be pregnant, if you have a lowered immune response, or if you have any other health concern, consult with your physician before performing any of the laboratory or occupational activities and communicate accordingly with your supervisor or faculty member.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the Department of Environmental Health and Safety at 426-3999 or the Department of Risk Management at 426-3636. If you feel you need to seek a reasonable accommodation through the ADA please refer to:

<http://hrs.boisestate.edu/eoaa/disabilities.shtml>.