

For the sake of this document, a Principal Investigator is any individual who has primary responsibility for the operations of assigned laboratory space. In most instances this will be a UAH faculty member. In some instances a facility director or department chair may assign the responsibilities outlined in this plan to a member of the academic staff (e.g., a supervisor of an instrumentation laboratory can be considered a Principal Investigator for the purposes of this plan).

The Principal Investigator has the primary responsibility for providing a safe work environment and for ensuring compliance with all elements of the Campus and Laboratory CHPs within their own assigned laboratory space. While the Principal Investigator can delegate health and safety responsibilities to a trained and knowledgeable individual (referred to as the Laboratory Chemical Hygiene Officer), the Principal Investigator must ultimately assure that the duties are performed. The Principal Investigator must:

- Develop and implement the Laboratory Specific CHP;
- Approve SOPs, ensuring that PPE, engineering controls, and administrative controls described within the SOPs provide adequate protection to staff;
- Maintain compliance with federal, state, and local regulations related to the use of hazardous chemicals in their laboratory (as outlined in this document);
- Provide access to SDSs, CHP, and other safety-related information for laboratory staff;
- Ensure that workers understand and follow the chemical safety policies, practices, and regulations related to their laboratory's operation;
- Assess individual roles of their staff and hazards associated with those roles;
- Ensure that PPE and required safety equipment are available and in working order and that laboratory staff is trained in their use;
- Determine training needed for laboratory workers based on their duties and tasks and ensure appropriate training has been provided. While OEHS provides some general instruction, training on laboratory-specific operations must be provided;
- Ensure that staff is knowledgeable on emergency plans, including fires, equipment failure, and chemical spills;
- Complete and keep the Laboratory Emergency Door Card up to date;
- Conduct regular chemical hygiene inspections and housekeeping inspections, including inspection of emergency equipment;
- Correct any unsafe conditions identified within the laboratory through either self-inspections or inspections by OEHS or other authorized safety professionals;
- Maintain documentation on training, exposure monitoring, approvals, and other safety related issues, as outlined in this document;
- Ensure proper disposal of hazardous materials according to university procedures;
- Contact OEHS on any lab-related injury or significant exposure; and
- Submit accident reports to Office of Counsel, Risk Management as soon as possible and within two calendar days of the incident.