

Department of Chemical Engineering Policy on Safety for Chemical Engineering Graduate Students

Graduate students in chemical engineering must take Chemical Hygiene Training- Laboratory Standard during their first quarter (or earlier). Students must be exempted from all academic and research responsibilities that conflict with this training. Students can request the assistance of the Graduate Program Chair to obtain accommodation from instructors outside chemical engineering. If students miss this training, they must not engage in laboratory work again until they complete it. Students may also be prohibited from laboratory work or ejected from the program if they engage in unsafe behavior. Prohibition from laboratory work can result in reduced stipend if the student is unable to contribute appropriately to the research assigned.

Some laboratories use equipment or procedures requiring more specialized training. If such training will conflict with academic work, students should notify the instructor at least 1 week in advance. Instructors for chemical engineering courses will make accommodation. Students can request the assistance of the Graduate Program Chair to obtain accommodation from instructors outside chemical engineering.

“Lab Plans” describing standard safety and operating procedures must be prominently displayed and accessible in each laboratory where chemical engineering graduate students work. Graduate students should read the Lab Plan for each laboratory where they work. The department may ask students to certify that they have done so.

All formal research proposals for the M.S. and Ph.D. in chemical engineering must identify the potential safety and environmental hazards associated with the proposed research and describe how they will be handled. This has long been a requirement and will be enforced.