

# Spotlight On Safety

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## Fume Hood and Biological Safety Cabinet

**This list of laboratory safety considerations presents general hood safety concepts that can be adapted to any laboratory.**

### *Fume Hood Facts*

- The ventilation rate should be checked annually for hood certification -contact EH&S at 951-827-5528 if your hood is past due.
- The hood sash should be marked at maximum use opening (vertical sliding sash only) - don't use the hood with the sash above this mark (if the maximum use opening is not marked, contact EH&S)
- Horizontal sliding sashes should not be removed
- If there is no air flow, stop using the hood, close all containers of hazardous materials and contact EH&S.



### *Chemical Use in the hood*

- Chemicals stored in the hood must be capped or covered; do not permanently store chemicals/apparatus in the hood.
- Conduct all work and keep all apparatus at least 6 inches back from the face of the hood
- Keep hood baffles free of obstructions.
- Don't allow stored chemicals to be in close proximity to bunsen burners, hot plates, electrical sources, or other chemicals that might be incompatible.
- Work with large amounts of flammable solvents (distillation, where vapors may exceed 20% of the Lower Explosive Limit for the solvent) must be done in explosion-proof hoods
- Biological safety cabinets must be certified annually by Technical Safety Services.
- Perchloric acid digestions, or any other work with perchloric acid, should only be done in hoods approved by EH&S

For more information visit [ehs.ucr.edu](http://ehs.ucr.edu) or call 951-827-5528 if you have questions.