

Radiation Safety Training Requirements

Training and education is a primary means of achieving a safe and healthy working environment. The mandatory radiation safety training provides fundamental principles of radiation protection and safety guidelines to all AUs of radioactive materials and radiation producing devices.

Initial Training:

The RSC requires all users of radioactive material, Class IIIb and IV lasers, X-ray machines, and other ionizing radiation producing devices requiring registration to complete the applicable initial radiation safety course. This includes all AUs and PIs.

The Radioactive Material, X-ray, and Laser Safety courses are currently offered with an exam requiring a passing score of at least 70%. An electronic mail will be sent to all who attend to indicate a pass or fail. The electronic mail indicating a passing grade should be kept as a record of completion of the course. Failure to pass the course will require that a participant review the handout material and the Online Radiation Safety Manual and then retest within one month. Where interim authorization was granted, failure to pass the course will lead to suspension from working with any source of radiation.

The three courses are provided at least once a semester. Notices of training are sent to PIs. Other interested faculty, staff, and students are welcome to attend. Class registration is available by calling the EHS department at 713-743-5858 or online at <http://www.uh.edu/ehs/>

Note: Completion of a radiation safety course does not automatically qualify someone as an Authorized User (AU). To work with specific radioactive material and/or radiation producing devices as an AU, you must be added to a PI's sublicense or subregistration through an amendment application.

Refresher Training

Annual Radiation Safety Refresher Training courses must be completed by all persons authorized to work with radioactive materials, x-ray machines and Class IIIb and IV Lasers. PIs and AUs will receive notification of required refresher training. There is an exam with the refresher training with a required passing grade of 80%. Participants by email of either passing or failing the exam. Failure to pass the refresher training will require that a participant review the training presentation and then retest within one month. The participant may also review the Radiation Safety Manual and Radiation Safety Officer may be contacted for assistance. Multiple attempts are permissible. Non-completion of the refresher training, either by not completing or passing the required exam will lead to suspension from working with any source of radiation.

Inactive PIs and their authorized users will be exempted from annual refresher training requirements. However, completion of appropriate training will be required prior to

reinstatement from inactivity. The RSO/LSO will recommend the applicable training when request is received.

Conditional approval as an AU may be granted by the RSO to an applicant, prior to completing the full course due to working demands, if they:

- Provide documentation of adequate radiation safety training and experience or,
- Successfully complete the applicable University radiation safety refresher training course.

Conditional approval is temporary until the full course is completed. Approval will be revoked if the full course is not completed as scheduled. Adherence to all Radiation Safety Manual procedures is required.

In addition, a person who plans to become an AU will only be required to complete the applicable radiation safety refresher training course if the person can provide documentation of adequate radiation safety training and experience from previous work within a year, subject to the RSO's approval. In addition to the required trainings, all PIs are required to review and consent to the "Radiation Use Authorization- Terms and Conditions", signifying their intent to operate in compliance with University Policies.

PIs are also required to provide protocol specific, on-the-job training to their AUs regarding the safe use of radioisotopes and/or radiation equipment in their laboratories. Radiation workers who do not receive the required training should contact the RSO at 713-743-5867 for assistance.