

# LAB SAFETY AWARENESS

## Safety Equipment in the Lab

**Identifying, getting familiar via training, keeping and maintaining safety equipment is critical in protecting and saving lives and health in emergency situations.**

- Know the location of the nearest emergency eyewash, safety shower and spill kits before starting any work in the laboratory. Access to these locations should never be obstructed.
- Check if appropriate safety equipment and supplies including fire extinguishers & blankets, proper PPE, spill kits are present and in working condition periodically (e.g. weekly for eyewash). Replenish immediately if used.
- Having a regular training and maintenance program for safety equipment is imperative. Do not use broken or damaged equipment – schedule its service or replace the equipment immediately.
- Ensure the [chemical fume hood](#) is working with proper face velocity at a functionally appropriate sash height. Notify EH&S to verify abnormal face velocity.
- Biosafety cabinets must be recertified annually by a vendor. Contact TSS, SEPS, or Digelab Solutions to perform any biosafety cabinet maintenance or repair.



 COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY EH&S

**Environmental Health & Safety**

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