

Shipping Biological Materials by Air

Dangerous Goods Training and Competency Assessment FAQ

Shipping dangerous goods (DGs) by air requires specific training and demonstrated competency. This FAQ explains the training and assessment requirements, who needs them, and when they must be renewed.

Why do I need dangerous goods training and a competency assessment?

Federal and international regulations require individuals who perform functions related to the transport of dangerous goods by air to receive appropriate training and demonstrate competency for the functions they perform.

Examples of Dangerous Goods

- Dry Ice
- Biological Materials – infectious/potentially infectious specimens, cultures
- GMMOs – genetically modified bacteria, yeast, etc.
- Hazardous Chemicals – flammable or corrosive chemicals

What RASCAL training do I need to complete?

This depends on the types of materials you ship. You may be required to complete one or both courses.

TC0076 - Dry Ice, Exempt Specimens and Excepted Quantities of Hazardous Chemicals

TC0507 - Biological Materials (infectious and potentially infectious) & GMMOs

Completion of RASCAL training alone does not satisfy the competency requirement.

Who is required to complete the competency assessment?

You are required to complete the assessment if you:

- ☐ Prepare, package, mark, label, document, or perform functions related to shipments of (DGs) by air.
- ☐ Ship materials such as dry ice, biological substances, infectious substances, genetically modified microorganisms, or other regulated DGs, when applicable.

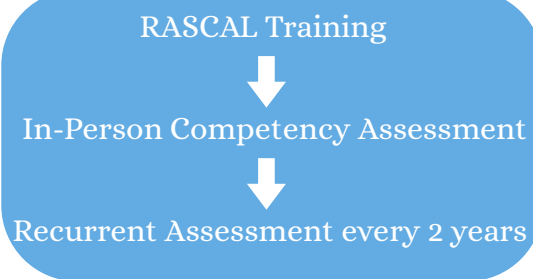
What happens during the competency assessment?

EH&S will review your ability to:

- Identify applicable shipping requirements
- Select appropriate packaging
- Apply required marks and labels
- Complete required documentation
- Follow applicable dry ice/biological material shipping procedures
- Perform the shipping functions associated with your role
- The assessment can be conducted with the materials you are intending to ship.

How do I schedule my in-person assessment?

When you have completed the RASCAL training, fill out the Intent to Ship form, or email hazshipping@columbia.edu



Intent to Ship
Form



EH&S
Webpage

Have more questions? Reach out to EH&S at hazshipping@columbia.edu or give us a call

CUIMC: (212) 305 - 6780 Manhattanville/Morningside: (212) 854 - 8749