

## Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Biosafety Labs

Biosafety Level →	BSL 1	BSL 2
Face	Protective eyewear shall be worn for conduct of procedures in which splashes of microorganisms or other hazardous materials are possible.	Face protection (goggles, mask, face shield or other splatter guard) is used for anticipated splashes or sprays of infectious or other hazardous materials to the face when the microorganisms must be manipulated outside the BSC.
Hands	Gloves must be worn when working with BSL1 materials. Alternatives to latex gloves shall be available. Where chemical hazards require hand protection in biosafety labs, consult the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) and/or the Director, EH&S for chemical-specific glove selection. See also: <a href="http://www.wm.edu/offices/facilities/services/safety/laboratory/Chemical-Selection-Guide/index.php">http://www.wm.edu/offices/facilities/services/safety/laboratory/Chemical-Selection-Guide/index.php</a>	Gloves must be worn when working with BSL2 materials or when potentially coming into contact with potentially contaminated surfaces or equipment. Wearing two pairs of gloves may be appropriate. Where chemical hazards require hand protection in biosafety labs, consult the Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) and/or the Director, EH&S for chemical-specific glove selection. See also: <a href="http://www.wm.edu/offices/facilities/services/safety/laboratory/Chemical-Selection-Guide/index.php">http://www.wm.edu/offices/facilities/services/safety/laboratory/Chemical-Selection-Guide/index.php</a>  Gloves are disposed of when overtly contaminated, and removed when work with infectious materials is completed or when the integrity of the glove is compromised. Disposable gloves are not washed, reused, or used for touching "clean" surfaces (keyboards, telephones, etc.), and they should not be worn outside the lab. Alternatives to latex gloves shall be available. Hands are washed immediately following removal of gloves.
Clothes	It is recommended that laboratory coats, gowns, or uniforms be worn to prevent contamination or soiling of street clothes. Lab coats laundering is coordinated through the EH&S Office.	Protective laboratory coats, gowns, smocks, or uniforms designated for lab use must be worn when working with BSL2 materials. This protective clothing is removed and left in the laboratory before leaving for non-laboratory areas (e.g., cafeteria, library, administrative offices). All protective clothing is either disposed of in the laboratory or laundered by the College; it should never be taken home by personnel.  Reusable clothing should be placed in a closed container and subsequently sterilized before laundering. Lab coats laundering is coordinated through the EH&S Office.
Feet	Closed-toed shoes with backs are required.	Closed-toed shoes with backs are required.

NOTE 1: Safety is always the responsibility of the PI, who should set specific rules based on the MSDS's of whatever chemicals are being used in the lab.

NOTE 2: For additional information on chemical and task-oriented PPE guidance, refer to the College's [Personal Protective Equipment \(PPE\) Matrix](#).

Reference: <http://www.cdc.gov/OD/ohs/biosfty/bmbl4/bmbl4s3.htm>