

2YC CHAS Chat – You are Now in Charge of Safety, Now What? Resources and Answers to questions

11/20/2025

- For small schools (Too many hats, high turnover, no/low lab-staff), how do we keep everyone consistently trained? *Answered in video*
- How do you procure funding for the items discussed in the chat? Any ideas? *Answered in video*
- What are some recommendations for professional development, continued learning, and keeping up on regulations?
 - <https://dchas.org/2yc-community/>
 - <https://www.naosmm.org/>
 - <https://www.csHEMA.org/>
 - Association of Laboratory Managers ... Labmanagers.org
- What are the requirements – like having a Chemical Hygiene Officer (CHO), having a Chemical Hygiene Plan (CHP), having training. Is there anything else that is a requirement?
 - <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.1450>
- Do other institutions have open lab spaces without direct supervision, particularly for biology/microbiology and anatomy and physiology courses? Students are allowed to access labs to work on models, use microscopes, specimens. How would you address this concern?
 - Answer from audience “We moved our models to the library. We do leave the A&P lab open sometimes to allow access to a microscope lab practice exam but we keep chemicals and everything locked up and away when the lab is open. We now only allow specimen studying during class or if they meet their instructor.”
- What are some online resources to train lab staff preferably free?
 - <https://institute.acs.org/acs-center/lab-safety/hazard-assessment/fundamentals/risk-assessment.html>
 - <https://institute.acs.org/acs-center/lab-safety/education-training/college-univ-guidelines.html>
 - LSI also has some free resources for colleges
<https://www.labsafety.org/science-safety-for-colleges>
 - Free safety program self-assessment
<https://app.agolix.com/assessment/27128>
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- How would you go about starting a chemical hygiene plan?
 - Answer from audience member: “I came into a position where I had to rewrite the CHP and my advice is to google CHP and find ones that are similar to your school and use that as a template.”
- How do you handle repeat offenders in lab safety violations? Thinking of research labs, where a professor is responsible for the lab
- For a smallish college who doesn’t have a safety committee or official authority for lab safety, and it falls mostly on me (lab tech/coordinator) and the department chair, at what point would you consider overstepping in terms of enforcing lab safety/determining lab safety policies? Any advice for starting the conversation with the Dean and the Chair to determine those boundaries?
- Any advice for unsupportive deans/chairs? Beyond cya emails.
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