

BIOLOGICAL SAFETY CABINET PROCEDURES

- The cabinet must be turned on at least 5 minutes before starting work in order to purge the air and remove any particulates
- The researcher should wear a closed-front lab coat (or surgical gown) and gloves
- The gloves should overlap the cuffs
- All materials needed for the manipulations should be placed in the cabinet before the work is initiated to minimize in-and-out motions
- **DO NOT COVER THE INTAKE GRILL**
- The researcher should work well into the cabinet and not out close to the front (at least four inches from the front grill)
- When in use, the entry door to the lab (particularly in small rooms) **must** be kept closed and traffic minimized
- Do not have electric fans blowing in the room when the biological safety cabinet is in use – this will seriously effect the air flow of the unit
- Develop procedures for the collection and decontamination of waste materials to avoid clutter and minimize in-and-out motions
- The cabinet must be decontaminated with an appropriate disinfectant at the end of each work operation
- Periodic use of 1-10% household bleach in water is acceptable, but chlorine is corrosive (70% ethanol or quaternary ammonium compounds may also be used if effective against agent)
- All biological safety cabinets must be certified for use when first installed, any time the unit is moved or repaired, and on an annual basis
- All cabinets will have a certification sticker indicating the last date of testing on the front face of the cabinet

For further information on the use, testing or selection of biological safety cabinets please contact Occupational Health, Safety and Environment at local 8971.