



Office of Environmental Health and Safety

Safety Guideline

Biosafety Cabinet Maintenance and Disposal

Effective Date: 11/1/2024

1. Background

A biosafety cabinet (BSC) is a primary engineering control used to keep laboratory professionals safe by providing a physical barrier and an environmental barrier against biohazardous or infectious agents. BSCs use high efficiency particulate air (HEPA) filters in both the exhaust and supply system to prevent exposure to biohazards.

There are several designs of biosafety cabinets which provide different levels of protection to the worker and to the research material. Class II Type A2 and B2 cabinets are widely used on campus. Laminar flow hoods (e.g., "clean benches") are not biosafety cabinets. Laminar flow hoods provide a clean or sterile area to protect the work product, but discharge air towards the worker.

OEHS certifies all campus biosafety cabinets and laminar flow hoods annually.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this guideline is to familiarize Department Managers and PIs on certification and maintenance of BSCs. The certification process ensures your BSC is working as designed.

3. Procedure

- ✓ Notify OEHS before purchasing BSC to ensure it is added to the annual certification inventory.
- ✓ Cabinets not operating correctly, under repair, or with expired certification must not be used and must be tagged as "Out of Order" by the lab until repairs and/or recertification is completed.
- ✓ The PI or departments manager is responsible for contacting and coordinating with the contractors or vendors (see below) to schedule the decontamination and repair work.
- ✓ BSCs must be decontaminated by a certified professional prior to being moved or decommissioned.
- ✓ Ensure BSCs in use are certified after being moved or serviced/repared.
- ✓ Laboratories are responsible for ensuring the proper disposal of decommissioned biosafety cabinets.
- ✓ Ensure the vendor removes the filters and provides confirmation of decontamination to the laboratory representative. The receiving department will require confirmation before removal.

Vendor	Contact	MHEC-D26 Approved
Alert Scientific INC https://alertsscientific.com/	Nick Langione niangione@alertsscientific.com 860-569-1992	YES
Labrepco LLC <i>Nuaire Exclusive</i> https://www.labrepco.com/	Daniel Dougherly Dan.dougherly@labrepco.com 215-442-9200 X 168	YES
The Baker Company, Inc Baker Exclusive https://bakerco.com/	Mary Anne Martin mmartin@bakerco.com 207-608-8301	YES
Steris Life Sciences https://www.sterislifesciences.com/	Claricio Gara Jr. claricio_gara@steris.com 1-800-523-9852, Ext 77510	NO