

Environmental Health and Safety

HAZCOM Policy Summary



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

Purpose

The Hazard Communication Program establishes requirements for informing University employees who work with or are exposed to hazardous chemicals and the physical and health hazards posed by those materials. This applies to any chemical which is known to be present in the workplace in such a manner that employees may be exposed under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency.

The Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) standard CFR 1910.1200 serves as a guide to preventing injuries when working with and around hazardous chemicals.

Applicability

- ◆ Loading Docks
- ◆ Storage areas for cleaning supplies
- ◆ Facilities Services
- ◆ Residential Services Properties
- ◆ Housing and Dining Services
- ◆ Utility Plants

General Requirements

HAZCOM Policy	All employees have both a need and right to know the hazards and identities of the chemicals they are exposed to when working as identified in the Hazard Communication Program.
Training	◆ Employees shall receive information and training on hazardous chemicals in their work area at the time of their initial assignment, whenever a new physical or health hazard the employees have not previously been trained about is introduced into their work area, and every three years.
Products Exempted from Hazard Communication	◆ Hazardous Waste ◆ Tobacco or Tobacco Products ◆ Wood or Wood Products ◆ Articles ◆ Food or Alcoholic Beverages ◆ Any Drug ◆ Cosmetics ◆ Consumer Products ◆ Nuisance Particulates ◆ Ionizing and Non-ionizing Radiation ◆ Biological Hazards
Chemical Spill Response	◆ Can the spill be cleaned up? ◆ Are you certain of the Hazards? ◆ Are you comfortable cleaning the spill? ◆ If not, contact Hospital Security at 702-6262 for the Medical Center or the University Police at 123 or 702-8181 for campus buildings.

First Aid

4 Major Routes of Entry	Warning Signs	General First Aid Procedures
◆ Inhalation (breathing) ◆ Absorption (skin, eyes, or mucus membranes) ◆ Ingestion (Hand-to-mouth contact) ◆ Injection	◆ Dizziness ◆ Nausea ◆ Headache ◆ Burning Sensations ◆ Pain ◆ Numbness ◆ Eye, nose, throat, and skin irritation	◆ Inhalation – Leave area immediately, obtain fresh air. ◆ Ingestion – Seek medical attention; DO NOT induce vomiting. ◆ Skin Contact – Remove contaminated clothing and flush area with water for at least 15 minutes. ◆ Eye Contact – Flush eyes with water for at least 15 minutes with eye lids open.

For SDS location and availability, please contact the Environmental Health and Safety department at 773.702.9999 or safety.uchicago.edu.

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