



ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH & SAFETY

The University of Alabama at Birmingham

Hazard Communication Standard and Course Assignments

The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration revised the Hazard Communication standard to improve employee recognition and understanding of chemical hazards in the workplace.

UAB Campus Employees (Non-hospital)

The Hazard Communication Program covers all UAB employees (including faculty, staff and other employees) on campus, except those working in the laboratories, which are covered by the Chemical Hygiene Plan. This applies to all hazardous materials and any health or physical hazards posed by those materials in the workplace in such a manner that employees may be exposed under normal conditions of use or in a foreseeable emergency. This Standard is also applicable to employees involved in work operations where employees only handle chemicals in sealed containers, which are not opened under normal conditions.

Online Hazcom Training:

Hazard Communication advanced training is available online and required for employees working with hazardous chemicals. Facilities Employees are assigned this course and they can also self-enroll by accessing the link below and searching for the course:

<https://www.uab.edu/humanresources/home/learndev/online-learning>. New employees joining the Facilities Department requiring to work with chemicals will be assigned this course and required to complete it before starting the work.

The training will cover:

- The hazard communication standard and its requirements.
- The components of the hazard communication program at UAB
- Operations in work areas where hazardous chemicals are present.
- Measures employees can take to protect themselves from the hazards.
- Specific procedures put into place at UAB to provide protection such as engineering controls, work practices, and the use of personal protective equipment (PPE).
- The location of the written hazard communication program, lists of hazardous chemicals, and the required SDSs
- Methods and observations that may be used to detect the presence or release of a hazardous chemical in the work area (such as monitoring, continuous monitoring devices, visual appearance or odor of hazardous chemicals when being released, etc.)

Hazard communication awareness training is for employees involved in work operations where employees only handle chemicals in sealed containers, which are not opened under normal conditions. This training is available at <https://www.uab.edu/humanresources/home/learndev/online-learning>.



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New employees are assigned this course during the initial orientation.

In-person Hazcom Training

- EH&S provides annual in-person Hazcom refresher training to all Facilities employees and UAB Police.

Health Services Foundation Employees

As part of the University of Alabama at Birmingham Hazard Communication program employees who work for a UAB healthcare entity, Health Services Foundation, will follow the training requirement

How do I know if I have to take the Hazard Communication Course?

You do not have to take the Hazard Communication Course if the only chemical exposure you have is common, consumer products such as white out or chlorine bleach and such products are being used in the manner and quantity described in the label directions. If large quantities are being used or the products are being used in a way that increases your exposure potential you need to take the training. If you have any questions, please contact EH&S at (205) 934-2487.

Those who have not been assigned training but who work with hazardous chemicals or in areas where hazardous chemicals are used, **OR** who wish to take training may self-register at [UAB Campus Learning System](#) and search for the course **Hazard Communication OHS_HS200**

Questions

If you have any questions, contact UAB Chemical safety at chemicalsafety@uab.edu