

Environmental Health and Safety

EMERGENCY EYEWASH AND SHOWER EQUIPMENT STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)

Emergency eyewash stations and showers are not substitutes for eye and face protection and protective clothing. For assistance, please contact EHS at ~~372~~ or visit our [website](#).

- I. Location
 - a. Emergency showers and eyewash stations are required in chemical, biological, and radioactive laboratories. They are also required in shop areas where hazardous chemicals are used and/or acid batteries are charged. Eyewash stations and emergency showers should be located within 10 seconds unobstructed travel of the hazard; preferably within the laboratory/shop area; and preferably within 10 feet of the hazard.
- II. Design
 - a. Units must comply with ANSI Z35~~8~~2009 and OSHA 1910.151(c) standards. Eyewash stations must feature hands free operation and provide 15 minutes of continuous flow at 0.4 gallons per minute. Showers must feature hands free operation and deliver 30 gallons per minute. Hand drench hoses may be used in conjunction with safety showers and eyewash stations, but are not a substitute for safety showers or eyewash stations.
- III. Responsibilities
 - a. Environmental Health and Safety
 - i. Ensure that each department is aware of their responsibilities under this SOP.
 - ii. Review this SOP periodically and amend as necessary.
 - iii. Assist Facilities Services and departments with plan review and placement of new equipment during new construction or major renovation.
 - iv. Maintain accurate record of location of all emergency eyewash stations and showers.
 - v. Provide equipment required to perform testing and flushing.
 - b. Deans, Directors, Department Chairs & Managers
 - i. Ensure that pertinent supervisors, employees, and students are notified of their responsibilities as outlined in this SOP.
 - ii. Ensure that all employees and students (if applicable) have received instruction in the operation of emergency eyewash stations and showers.
 - iii. Ensure that procedures, equipment and materials appropriate for the specific work locations under his/her authority are provided to protect the health and safety of all employees and students.
 - c. Faculty, Lab Managers, and Supervisory Staff
 - i. Ensure that the necessary emergency eyewash and safety shower equipment called for in this SOP is provided or, if such equipment is not available, that any work requiring the availability of the equipment is not performed until the equipment is available.
 - ii. Ensure that all employees and students who may need to use the emergency eyewash and safety shower equipment are trained on its location and use.
 - iii. Ensure that emergency eyewash stations within the lab are activated weekly.

