



UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA PROCEDURE

Procedure:	Minors in Laboratories and Other Hazardous Work Areas
Parent Policy:	Health and Safety
Effective Date:	March 28, 2008
Revised Date:	
Review Date:	March 28, 2018
Approving Body:	President
Authority:	Policy: Health and Safety
Responsible Executive Officer:	Vice-President (Administration)
Delegate: (If applicable)	
Contact:	Executive Director of Human Resources
Application:	Students, External Parties: All Contractors, Employees: All Employees

Part I Reason for Procedure

To set out Procedures secondary to the Policy entitled "Health and Safety Policy" in connection with access by minors to laboratories and other hazardous work areas.

Part II Procedures

2.1 Definitions

2.1.1 A minor is defined as an individual under the age of 18 years.

- 2.1.2 A potentially dangerous work area is any laboratory or workshop or other area inside or outside the University where a hazardous substance such as chemicals, biohazardous agents, radioisotopes and/or physical hazards (eg. radiation, lasers, moving machinery parts, extreme temperatures, electrical apparatus, animals, allergens, etc. may be present.
- 2.2 There are risks inherent in permitting minors to be present in laboratory and workshop work spaces inside or outside the University. These locations present a variety of potential exposures to physical, chemical, biological and radioactive agents. The two main risks are that:
- (a) minors have developing immune systems and growing bodies and as a result they may be at greater risk than adults when exposed to physical, chemical, biological or radioactive agents; and
 - (b) in an emergency situation, a minor may be at risk to respond safely to the situation in a timely manner and may also put the guardian at risk.
- 2.3 There are multiple regulatory requirements requiring due diligence on behalf of the University to ensure the safety of all concerned in the workplace.
- 2.4 Except for students who may benefit from an educational exercise, access to laboratories or other hazardous work areas by minors may only occur if the following conditions are met:
- (a) A parental consent form has been completed and signed by the parent or guardian;
 - (b) The Department Head authorizes the exception to the norm and has received the required parental consent form;
 - (c) The minor is under the constant supervision of a Faculty/Staff Sponsor;
 - (d) The minor is able to abide by health and safety rules such as those outlined in the University Chemical Safety, Biosafety and Radioactive Safety policies and procedures;
 - (e) The minor is not allowed to operate equipment or participate in activities using hazardous agents unless it is part of an approved camp or field trip for which the protocols and controls are in place and have been approved by the sponsoring faculty/department;
 - (f) The minor is not placed in a situation that may put the health and safety of the minor or others at risk;
 - (g) the minor is provided with any appropriate safety equipment and is adequately protected by this equipment.

- 2.5 School Groups who wish to participate in educational exercises will be allowed in potentially hazardous work areas if:
- (a) The conditions in 2.4 have been satisfied;
 - (b) Supervision is provided by University staff and the visiting school supervisors/teachers;
 - (c) The group tours are given a safety briefing prior to entering the area.
- 2.6 In situations where University of Manitoba registered students are under the age of 18, the students may be allowed to participate in laboratory activities as required by their curriculum.

Part III Accountability

- 3.1 University Secretary is responsible for advising the President that a formal review of this Procedures Document is required.
- 3.2 The Director of Environmental Health and Safety is responsible for the communication, administration and interpretation of these Procedures.

Part IV Review

- 4.1 Formal Procedure reviews will be conducted every ten (10) years. The next scheduled review date for these Procedures is March 28, 2018.
- 4.2 In the interim, these Procedures may be revised or rescinded if:
- (a) the Vice-President (Administration) or the President deems necessary; or
 - (b) the relevant Policy is revised or rescinded.

Part V Effect on Previous Statements

- 5.1 These Procedures supersede:

(a) all previous Board/Senate Policies, Procedures, and resolutions on the subject matter herein; and

(b) all previous Administration Policies, Procedures, and directives on the subject matter contained herein; and These Procedures supersede the following all previous Administration Procedures, and resolutions on the subject matter contained herein.

Part VI Cross References

Cross References: Health and Safety Policy