



Laboratory Coat Laundering Procedures

Laboratory coat is the standard attire in all UTSC laboratories. To ensure cleanliness and to reduce the risk of contamination, laboratory coats must be laundered on a regular basis. Recommended washing frequency for lab coats is at least once a year (typical laboratory activities) and subsequent to minor contamination. More frequent washing may be necessary depending on the risk of exposure to hazardous agents in the laboratory.

UTSC has an in-house lab coat laundering facility located in SW255. The laundering service is open to all UTSC lab faculty, staff, post-docs and graduate students. Other laboratory-related materials can be washed at the facility subsequent to EHS approval.

You must book usage of the facility ahead of time. Please contact our Health & Safety Coordinator, at ehs@utsc.utoronto.ca or 416-208-2928 for bookings. Lab coats should be placed in a transparent/translucent closed bag during transportation to the Campus Safety and Security front sign-in desk (SW300). Transport bags and lab coat markers are available at SW300. After submitting the declaration form (below) signed by PI/Lab manager (to ensure all procedures are followed), a key will be issued to the user.

Lab coats accepted by the in-house laundry facility must meet the following requirements:

1. Biologically contaminated lab coats and lab coats from Biosafety level 2 labs must be autoclaved prior to washing and should be transported in autoclaved bags.
2. Lab coats from radiation labs must be monitored and confirmed to be less than 0.5Bq/cmsq before leaving the lab. Monitoring results must be added to the declaration form and signed by the PI/Lab manager.
3. Lab coats with significant contamination of highly hazardous substances must be discarded according to hazardous waste disposal procedures. *Therefore, during high exposure risk work with highly hazardous agents, it is recommended that a disposal lab coat be worn on top of a reusable lab coat and the disposal lab coat should be discarded before leaving the lab.

*Please note that environmental health & safety (EHS) staff reserves the right to refuse lab coats without proper documentation, or if there is reason to believe that the lab coats to be washed were not properly autoclaved or monitored or appear to be significantly contaminated.

After usage of the facility, the key must be returned to SW300 and facility will be inspected by EHS to ensure the facility/equipment remains in good condition/order. EHS reserves the right to charge a penalty for users who do not follow procedures, leave garbage behind or cause damage to equipment/facility.

Please direct any questions about this service to Holly Yuen, at holly.yuen@utoronto.ca or 416-208-5141.

Lab coat laundering request and declaration form

Date: _____

Name of User: _____

Lab room: _____

Number of laboratory coats to be washed: _____ Scheduled time slot: _____

As a supervisor, I hereby approve washing of the above-mentioned lab coats and certify or agree on the following:

I have read the University of Toronto Scarborough Laboratory Coat Laundering Procedures and I agree to abide by all requirements. I understand that EHS reserves the right to charge a penalty for users who do not follow procedures, leave garbage behind or cause damage to equipment/facility.

1. Biologically contaminated lab coats and lab coats from Biosafety level 2 labs have been autoclaved in room _____ on _____ (Date) at _____ (Time) by _____.
2. Lab coats from radiation labs have been monitored on _____ (Date) at _____ (Time) and confirmed to be _____ (Bq/cmsq) by _____.
3. There is no significant contamination of highly hazardous substances on the lab coats.
4. I agree to pay \$3.00 CAD per laundry load and will not exceed 10 lab coats per load.
5. EHS reserves the right to charge an additional \$3.00 for assessed extra loads should it be determined that users are washing more than 10 lab coats per load or more than 15 towels and potentially damaging the washer or dryer.
6. I agree to clean out the lint trap before leaving the laundry facility to ensure safe operation of the dryer and to avoid potential fire hazards.

Name of Supervisor (Please print): _____

Supervisor's Signature/Approval: _____

Department: _____

FIS Account Numbers:

cc: _____

cfc: _____

fund: _____

GL: _____

Pre-use and post-use inspection notes (To be completed by EHS):

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