

Fume Hood Use

Make sure the hood is on and working properly at the safe airflow range, between 80-150 linear feet per minute (fpm).

Operate the hood with glass sash no higher than 18-inch arrows to protect your upper body and provide adequate airflow. The sash may be raised up higher to set experiments up first, and should be closed when not in use.

Fume hood certification should be performed annually, and after repairs or modifications to lab ventilation or design.

Work at least 6 inches inside the hood for proper airflow, keep the hood uncluttered, elevate large equipment 1-2 inches, do not block back hood baffle vents, and do not use for storage.

Move slowly inside and around hood, when walking by and opening lab doors, and do not prop open doors. Fume hoods and flow sensors cannot operate properly with surrounding drafts, air conditioning ducts or doors.

Wear proper Personal Protective Equipment (PPE): Safety glasses for dry chemicals, goggles for liquids, full labcoat, long pants and closed shoes.

Clean up experiments after use, and clean up spills promptly. Do not allow liquids to go down sink drains or evaporate in the fume hood, which is improper waste disposal and can contaminate hood ducts and sensors.

Route electrical cords underneath air foil sash; do not otherwise block.

Do not work with flammable chemicals in a hood containing open flame, hot plate, or equipment that generates electrical sparks.

Flow Monitor

The hood is equipped with visual flow display, and audible low flow alarm when hood flow goes below 70 fpm.

Ensure that the monitor is working properly before use.

If there is a problem with a component of the flow monitoring system, the meter may read Err or FFF; or there will be no lights and blank display in the event of power loss.

Do not use the hood for experiments if the flow is inadequate, and let your lab faculty or lab supervisor know so they can notify Environmental Health & Safety (x.2106) or Central Plant (x.2240) if not working.