

Why write an individual Lab Safety Plan?

Because section 1.3.2 of the university Lab. Safety Manual, which was ratified in 2013, says so.

[Some background - Section 1.1 of the Lab. Safety Manual states: "The university is required to provide a safe and healthy environment for faculty, staff, students, visitors and the community ... in compliance with federal, provincial and local regulations." In turn, this statement is based on section 5.2 of the Newfoundland Occupational Health and Safety Act.]

Who is obligated to write an individual Lab Safety Plan?

Every PI and lab manager.

Where did the template (2 pages, below) come from?

The Biochemistry Safety Committee modified a generic version that was provided by the department of Environmental, Health and Safety (as it is now known). It comprises most of the basic areas, but it won't cover every individual application.

Where did the sample Lab Safety Plan which is on the Biochemistry safety website come from?

Another academic unit in the faculty of science (with permission). Bits from our own website have been added. It is 'incomplete' but should provide an idea of what is required as well as facilitate (by cutting and pasting) compiling our own individual plans.

In regards to the sample LSP, note:

- (i) not all of the contents will be relevant to practices in a given lab;
- (ii) some applications will certainly be missing (eg radioisotope and biohazard);
- (iii) re: assessment of hazard (Pt. 15) is a suggestion
- (iv) re: working after regular hours policy (Appendix A) - this may vary from lab-to-lab;
- (v) re: monthly check list (Appendix B) – the format is a suggestion
- (vi) re: signature list (Appendix C) – the wording is a suggestion.

Who checks?

Ultimately, Environmental, Health and Safety. During a formal inspection they will ask to see it. But first, submit your Lab Safety Plan to the Biochemistry Safety Committee in one month's time. Due date, November 19th 2014.

What then?

Ensure that everyone reads it (section 1.3.3 of Lab Safety Manual). Post it in a known location of a lab.