Emergency Help

The quickest and easiest way to obtain professional help for any type of emergency, day or night, is to call 911. Dialing 911 from any University landline phone will directly connect you with the University of Arizona Police Department. If calling from a cell phone, you will get the local emergency telephone system. Identify the location as the University of Arizona and you will immediately be connected to UAPD.

When calling to report an emergency, stay calm, identify yourself, and carefully explain the problem and location to the dispatcher. Remain on the phone until the dispatcher tells you to hang up. If you cannot stay on the line, tell the dispatcher that you must leave and where you can be reached.

Major Incident – Immediate Emergency Procedures

- Call 9-1-1
- Do what is necessary to protect life and health
- Attend to injured or contaminated persons and remove them from danger
- Alert people to evacuate the area
- Close doors to the affected area
- Have person knowledgeable of incident and area assist emergency personnel

During normal operating hours employees should notify their supervisor of the emergency and begin to take the appropriate

- Emergency "blue light" phones are located throughout the campus with direct access to University police.
Biological Spill

Biological spills outside biological safety cabinets will generate aerosols that can be dispersed in the air throughout the laboratory. These spills are very serious if they involve microorganisms that require Biosafety Level (BSL) 3 containment, since most of these agents have the potential for transmitting disease by infectious aerosols.

To reduce the risk of inhalation exposure in such an incident, occupants should hold their breath and leave the laboratory immediately.

The laboratory should not be re-entered to decontaminate and clean up the spill for at least 30 minutes.

During this time the aerosol will settle or be removed from the laboratory by the exhaust air ventilation system. Appropriate protective equipment is particularly important in decontaminating spills involving microorganisms that require BSL 2 or BSL 3 containment. This equipment includes lab coat with long sleeves, back-fastening gown or jumpsuit, disposable gloves, disposable shoe covers, and safety goggles and mask, or full-face shield. Use of this equipment will prevent contact with contaminated surfaces and protect eyes and mucous membranes from exposure to splattered materials.

Spill Involving a Microorganism Requiring BSL 1 or BSL 2 Containment

1. Alert people in immediate area of spill
2. Put on proper personal protective equipment
3. Cover spill with paper towels or absorbent pads
4. Carefully pour a freshly prepared 10% (vol./vol. w/water) dilution of household bleach around the edges of the spill and then into the spill. Avoid splashing
5. Allow a 15-minute contact period
6. Use paper towels to wipe up the spill, working from the edges into the center.
7. Clean spill area with fresh towels soaked in disinfectant.
8. Place towels in a red plastic bag for disposal in the biohazardous waste
Spill Involving a Microorganism Requiring BSL 3 Containment

Attend to injured or contaminated persons and remove them from exposure

Alert people in the laboratory to evacuate

Close doors to affected area

Call Biological Spill Emergency Response number (621-1790)

Have person knowledgeable of incident and laboratory assist emergency personnel