

**Safe Science =
Good Science**
Aug 22, 2024

Tips for Following this Policy

- Eat or drink **before** entering the laboratory.
- **DO NOT** bring outside drinks, food, contact lenses, or cosmetics into the lab
- Wash hands before and after handling food or drinks.
- Make sure your hands and clothes are free of food and drink residues before entering the lab.
- Do not wear lab coats or gloves in eating areas.
- Report any accidental ingestion or exposure immediately.

CDC's Handwashing Tips

1. **Wet** hands with clean water.
2. **Apply** soap and rub all surfaces, including backs of hands, between fingers, and under nails.
3. **Scrub** for at least 20 seconds.
4. **Rinse** thoroughly under running water.
5. **Dry** with a clean towel or air dry.

For questions or concerns please call DEHS at 852-6670 or email dehsubm@louisville.edu

Food and Drinks in the Lab

Ensuring the safety of our laboratories requires the active participation and cooperation of all staff members. It is crucial to maintain a clean and chemical-free environment. To protect everyone, adherence to the University of Louisville's Food and Drink Policy is mandatory. Consequently, outside food or drinks are not allowed in the labs.

Why No Food or Drinks?

The University of Louisville's Biosafety Manual states:

"Eating, drinking, smoking, handling contact lenses, and applying cosmetics are not permitted in the laboratory. Food and drink must be stored outside the laboratory."



Personal safety risks involve the cross-contamination and ingestion of hazardous or toxic materials. Consuming food or drinks in areas where these substances are present can result in accidentally ingesting dangerous biological, chemical, or radiological materials, which can lead to serious injury.

How the Contamination of Hazardous Materials can Spread

Contamination can occur through:

- Contact with contaminated gloves or hands.
- Airborne materials settling on surfaces or utensils.
- Placing consumable items on a contaminated surface.

Important Reminder: No PPE in the Hallway

Wearing PPE outside the lab can spread hazardous materials, posing safety risks and creating unsanitary conditions. Always remove PPE before exiting the lab and use designated storage areas. Regular reminders and enforcement of this policy are essential to maintain a secure and clean environment.



Remove **all** PPE Before Leaving the Lab



Food and Drinks Prohibited in the Lab