



Minors In Laboratories Plan

Florida Institute of Technology (Florida Tech)

Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S)

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REVISION HISTORY

Revision Number	Revision Date	Revised By	Description of Change
00	9/22/2021	Selvin McLean	Initial plan creation and implementation.
01	12/20/2023	Selvin McLean	Document review; typo corrections, form alignment
02	2024-01-22	Charles Cherrito	Periodic review. Re-write of Plan, Risk Management referenced for contact.

Contents

Purpose.....4

Scope.....4

responsibility.....4

Approval Procedure5

Prohibited.....5

Approval Contingency6

PURPOSE

In keeping with Florida Institute of Technology (Florida Tech)'s mission of education and outreach, it may be appropriate for persons under the age of eighteen years to occasionally enter Florida Tech research laboratories, animal facilities, or other areas for educational purposes.

The purpose of this plan is to identify under what circumstances and/or conditions minors will be allowed to visit, work, or conduct research in Florida Tech areas where hazardous materials are used or hazardous procedures are conducted, including animal facilities. These guidelines are necessary to help protect a minor's health and safety and to provide reasonable measures to prevent harm arising from potential exposure to hazardous agents or conditions.

SCOPE

This plan covers all Florida Tech areas where hazardous materials are used or hazardous procedures are conducted, and any area relating to animal research.

This plan is directed to include all persons under age 18 whether students, employees, or volunteers.

RESPONSIBILITY

As with other plans affecting the use of hazardous materials, enforcement of this plan is the responsibility of the supervisor of the project or Principal Investigator.

Additionally, it is the responsibility of the supervisor to ensure the both the minor as well as the minors' parent(s)/legal guardian(s) are fully made aware of the potential hazards involved in all procedures the minor is expected to be involved.

APPROVAL PROCEDURE

To acquire approval for minors to participate in activities in areas as denoted in this document (e.g., research labs), the below three departments' items must be contacted:

1. Department Leadership

Approval from leadership within the specific department the minor is expected to be involved must be obtained. It is the responsibility of department leadership to obtain any approvals needed through committees (e.g., IACUC, IBC, etc.).

2. EHS Office

A full description regarding all aspects of what the minor will be involved must be submitted to the EHS Office (ehs@fit.edu). Upon receipt, the EHS Office will review the submission for applicable safety and notify the responsible party of a decision. The description must include (at minimum) the following information:

- a All procedures the minor will be conducting.
- b Where they will be conducting the procedures.
- c A list of all hazards the minor will be subject to possible exposure (e.g., hazardous/biological material).
- d The name and contact information for the supervisor taking responsibility (e.g., Principal Investigator/Sponsor).

3. The Office of Risk Management

The Office of Risk Management must be contacted to obtain specific documents (e.g., waivers) for proper submission (compliance@fit.edu).

PROHIBITED

All Minors are prohibited from working with the following and therefore, no approval will be granted for any minor to be involved:

- a. Recombinant or infectious agents designated as BSL-3, ABSL-3 or higher.
- b. Select agents, controlled substances, or explosives.
- c. Radioactive materials or radiation (X-rays, gamma etc.), or lasers.
- d. Acute Toxins (i.e., mammalian LD50 of ≤ 100 ug/kg body weight).
- e. Animal work that involves any of the above materials or equipment.

APPROVAL CONTINGENCY

Original approval and approval continuation to be granted of minors to conduct activities in labs at Florida Tech is contingent on ALL the following being satisfied:

1. The minor must be supervised by the Principal Investigator/Sponsor or his or her designee at all times while in the laboratory and never left alone.
2. This document titled; MINORS IN LABORATORIES PLAN has been read and understood by the supervisor.
3. Hazard specific safety training is completed by the Principal Investigator/Sponsor with the minor that is commensurate with the hazards and level of involvement.
4. Personal protective equipment (PPE), specific to the hazard, is provided to the minor with instructions for use and disposal. At a minimum, and without exception, minors must always wear the following PPE while in a laboratory:
 - a laboratory safety glasses
 - b lab coat
 - c long pants
 - d closed toed shoes.
 - e Gloves must be worn when handling hazardous materials.
5. The laboratory is in full compliance with all applicable Florida Tech safety programs and regulations.

SPECIAL NOTE

Minors who participated in a previously approved official Florida Tech plan are not allowed in Florida Tech research facilities for any reason unless they have current approval. Approvals are based on specific projects and time frames of projects.