

Marshall University Institutional Biosafety Committee

Biosafety Training Policy

(November 03 2021)

The Marshall University Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) has acquired access to a series of three Biosafety Training Courses through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) program: (1) Initial Biosafety Training, (2) NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines and (3) OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens. At meetings held in 2021, the IBC approved a new policy regarding Biosafety Training for MU faculty, students and staff.

(1) The IBC requires all MU investigators with pending or active rDNA-infectious agent applications to complete the CITI Initial Biosafety Training course. All members of an applicant's lab (including postdocs, students and staff) who are listed on the rDNA-infectious agent application must also complete Initial Biosafety Training.

(2) If an applicant checks yes to Question 14 (use of rDNA or sDNA) in Section II of the application, the applicant and members of the applicant's lab must also complete the NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines course

(3) If an applicant checks yes to Question 39 (use of human blood, sera or tissue) in Section VI of the application, the applicant and members of the applicant's lab must also complete the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens course.

(4) If a faculty member doesn't have a pending or active rDNA application, the IBC recommends that the faculty member and members of the applicant's lab complete the Initial Biosafety Training course and if appropriate the NIH Recombinant DNA Guidelines and the OSHA Bloodborne Pathogens courses.

(5) If a member of the applicant's research team is only engaged in data analysis (e.g. a statistician or a bioinformaticist), this person is not required to complete the safety courses.

(6) The CITI website will issue a certificate at completion of each course. The IBC Chair, University Biological Safety Officer and Bruce Day will have access to the completion records.

(7) Upon completion of a course, the applicant's certification is valid for three years. CITI will provide reminders as the applicant's certification end date approaches.

(8) The IBC will continue to provide annual MU-specific lab safety, rDNA and bloodborne pathogen training.

(9) Newly-arrived faculty, students and staff may present pre-existing safety certificates from other institutions to the IBC chair who will review and approve these certificates on a case by case basis. Current MU faculty, students and staff must complete the CITI course specified above.

The CITI courses are authoritative, up to date and complement the ongoing MU specific training provided annually by the IBC.

Instructions for accessing and completing the educational requirements are provided in a separate document. Each course is broken down into modules so the applicant can complete the modules as the applicant's time permits.