

University of Pittsburgh Safety Manual	EH&S Guideline Number: 01-010	
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VISITORS TO RESTRICTED AREAS

As an extension of its educational responsibilities, the University of Pittsburgh allows and encourages community representatives, members of the public and students to visit University facilities. However, visitation by such groups and individuals to laboratories, maintenance shops and other restricted areas must be under the direct supervision of an authorized faculty or staff member, or part of an open house, guided tour, or supervised educational program that has the pre-approval of departmental management.

Additional procedural guidance regarding academic visitors to the University of Pittsburgh is available at <https://visitor.pitt.edu/>.

1. Areas housing potential or known hazards including (but not limited to) all research, teaching, and/or clinical laboratories; maintenance shops, mechanical/electrical spaces and construction areas; and any area where chemicals are handled or stored shall have access restricted to authorized individuals. Authorized individuals are University of Pittsburgh faculty or staff, UPMC employees and other individuals such as contractors specifically invited to the restricted area for official University business, and/or University of Pittsburgh students with access privileges to specified restricted areas.
2. For the purposes of these guidelines, "minors" refers to individuals who are under eighteen years of age. All University employees and volunteers who have direct contact with minors must secure the clearances required by Pennsylvania law. In addition, minors who are not matriculated University students are not authorized to visit laboratories, maintenance shops and other restricted areas, except as a participant in department approved tour or educational program with the permission of an informed parent or guardian. At no time should children be exposed to the hazards or dangers of the laboratory, maintenance shop or restricted area until parental consent has been obtained.
3. Minor children of University faculty, volunteers, staff and students are not authorized to be in laboratories, maintenance shops or other restricted areas on an attended or unattended childcare basis.
4. Minors are not permitted into any area designated as a Biosafety Level 3 or posted as "Danger: Asbestos", "High Voltage", "Danger: Laser", and "Extremely Hazardous Area - Do Not Enter - Contaminated Area".
5. Minors are not permitted into any area with restrictive warning signs, such as "Authorized Personnel Only", "Restricted Area - Admittance to Laboratory Personnel Only", and other restrictive warnings unless pre-approved by the department chairperson.
6. Domestic pets or animal companions are prohibited in restricted areas of University buildings, except for service animals with express written consent of the department chairperson.

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7. The functional unit chairperson or director, shop supervisor, or laboratory principal investigator bears primary responsibility for ensuring that unauthorized individuals are not granted access to restricted areas in their responsibility areas and that University faculty, staff and students under their directions are aware and adhere to these guidelines.