Obtaining PPE:

Q: How do I get my PPE?

A: Vet Med Central Services (VCMS) is the campus distributor of PPE. They have setup two fitting locations, in Haring Hall next to the VMCS store rm. 1131, tel. 752-0157 and at the Swaggie Store Med Science 1B rm. 135, tel. 752-3369. Please print your LHAT PPE Voucher and drop in between 8:30-10am. Please allow 20-30 minutes for fitting and distribution of PPE. You can also schedule a fitting or if you have PPE questions email vmcs@ucdavis.edu. PPE items will be charged to the laboratory, so please have an account or recharge number available.

Q: I was given an “IOU” instead of receiving my PPE at the Distribution Event and I have yet to receive my PPE. What do I do?

A: Please email Steve Ball (sdball@ucdavis.edu) with your unfulfilled IOU details. He will contact you as to how proceed.

Lab Coats:

Q: I received a Barrier Lab Coat. Are there tips on how to properly use it?

A: The Cal-OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Standard (Title 8 §5193) requires employees who work with human blood, certain body fluids, and human tissues and cells to wear PPE that does not permit the fluids to get to the person’s skin or personal clothing. The material in the Barrier Lab Coat meets this requirement. When using the Barrier Lab Coat, make sure the elastic cuff on the sleeve is not exposed but is under the cuff of your gloves.
Q: I received several lab coats (e.g. flame resistant lab coat, barrier lab coat). When should I wear a certain lab coat?

A: Please refer to the Usage and Limitations of the PPE table.

Q: My lab coat required custom tailoring and I have not received it yet. When will it arrive?

A: Please email Steve Ball (sdball@ucdavis.edu) with your unfulfilled details. He will contact you as to how to proceed.

Q: I was only given a “Flame Resistant (FR) Lab Coat”, but I don’t always work with flammable chemicals with an ignition source. Can I wear a different lab coat?

A: Yes. You may request a traditional laboratory coat for activities that do not require FR. Reprint your voucher and take it to the VMCS for fitting and ordering. Please have an account or recharge number available.

Q: The voucher that I printed doesn’t list a Flame Resistant lab coat, but I work with large volumes of flammable liquids. Can I get a FR lab coat?

A: If you work with large volumes of flammable liquids and an FR lab coat is not indicated on your PPE voucher, the PI or Responsible Party should login the LHAT and amend their assessment to include the task of working with large volumes of flammable liquids to ensure that you have the appropriate PPE.

Q: I understand that some FR materials are coated with chemicals that may pose health risks. What fabric is used in the FR coats distributed at the event?

A: The FR lab coats selected are made of a material produced from DuPont called Nomex IIIA. http://www.dupont.com/products-and-services/personal-protective-equipment/thermal-protective/brands/nomex.html. This is a para-aramid synthetic fiber that by its very structure is flame resistant. It does not need any additional treatments. The fibers are mixed with Kevlar(TM) fibers for
structure and anti-shrinkage during a flash over, as well as an anti-static dissipation fiber. The only chemicals added are the royal blue dye and a starch-like material called “sheeting” that is used to stiffen the fabric during sewing to help in the cutting and assembly process. The sheeting washes out on the first wash.

Q: My lab coat got contaminated with biohazardous materials, what should I do?

A: Autoclave the contaminated lab coat (the white cotton, barrier, and FR lab coats are autoclaveable) at 121 degrees C, 15 psi, for 30 minutes. After autoclaving, place it in the hamper for laundry service.

Q: Are there any restriction on where PIs are allowed to obtain PPE for themselves or future students? Must PIs obtain lab coats directly from Mission Linen Services, or can they buy lab coats from other vendors and have them laundered by Mission Linen?

A: VMCS will stock a wide variety of safety eyewear and lab coats to meet all the requirements of the LHAT process. Any source of PPE is acceptable provided the eyewear meets ANSI requirements and the lab coat fits properly, and in the case of flame-resistant lab coats, is UL listed. However, obtaining PPE from VMCS through the LHAT process allows for easy tracking of the required training and distribution of PPE. Mission Linen services will launder customer-owned garments.

Service Locations & Laundry:

Q: What is the best way to contact Mission Linen Supply about my laundry service?

A: The best way to contact Mission Linen Supply is via e-mail at: UCD_labcoats@missionlinen.com

Q: How do I get my new lab coat laundered?
A: Mission Linen has the service contract for the laundering of laboratory coats. Please speak to your lab safety officer or PI to ask if they have a laundry account set up with Mission Linen Supply. If they do have an account they will assist you with getting your coats added to their laundry account. Please do not place your coats in a laundry basket without first making sure your coats have been assigned to a laundry account. If they do not have a laundry program please ask that they reach out to Mission Linen Supply for information on how to go about setting up an account. The e-mail address to contact Mission Linen Supply is: UCD_laboats@missionlinen.com.

Q: What do I need when trying to set up laundry service with Mission Linen Supply?

A: Before contacting Mission Linen Supply, try to identify a potential laundry location. Also provide an estimate of how many garments you anticipate being turned in on a regular basis, and the frequency of service you would like to receive. (i.e. weekly, every other week, etc.) Once you have initiated an inquiry for service via the designated email address, Mission Linen Supply will contact you to set up an onsite meeting.

Q: Once Mission Linen Supply has been contacted, how long will it take to start service?

A: After the laundry location and frequency of service has been identified and agreed upon by both parties, you will need to create a P.O. for the requested services. Once a P.O. has been created and provided to Mission Linen Supply, services will begin within 1-2 weeks, depending on the next scheduled delivery on campus.

Q: How do I pay for my laundry service with Mission Linen Supply?

A: Follow this process:
1. User works with Mission to establish or refine account
2. User initiates PR in Kuali against Agreement A10021 which will become the APO used to pay invoices
3. User may transmit APO number to Mission for reference on their account
For Best Practices on how to create an APO against this agreement, please see:
for more information on creating PR’s in Kuali.

If you need further assistance creating your PR, please contact the KFS HelpDesk at: fishelp@ucdavis.edu

Proper Fitting:

Q: The PPE (lab coat or eye protection) I was given doesn’t fit. What can I do?

A: Visit VMCS in Haring Hall rm. 1131. They will refit you and provide the appropriate PPE.

Eyewear & Face Shields:

Q: What is the purpose of the Safety Glasses?

A: Please refer to the Usage and Limitations of the PPE table.

Q: Where can I purchase replacement hard plastic for my face shield?

A: You can order through vmcs.ucdavis.edu Item ID PPE5005, or at VMCS Haring Store. Fisher Scientific carries a number of replacement shields, from disposable to sturdy polycarbonate.

Visitors:

Q: We have a number of visiting scholars and other individuals that tour our laboratory. How do we get PPE for them?
A: If the PPE that you replaced with the UCOP funded PPE is still in good condition, this could be used as protection for visitors to your laboratories. If you do not have extra PPE, you can purchase standard sizes of laboratory coats through a variety of places, including VMCS, for your visitors. If eye protection is required, relatively inexpensive safety glasses (< $5) can be purchased through Fisher Scientific.

Support Personnel:

Q: Do I need to have lab coats available for service technicians that come in the laboratory to service equipment? Do you provide them?

A: Generally, service technicians provide their own PPE when visiting a laboratory. However, if it is required due to the activities taking place in the laboratory and they do not have it, they should not be allowed to service your equipment at that time. EH&S does not provide lab coats or any other PPE for service technicians.

Leaving the University:

Q: If I change jobs or leave my position with the University, can I take my lab coats with me?

A: Yes, provided they are the UC-funded lab coats. If your PI has been recharged for your PPE, please get their approval before taking the lab coats with you when you change jobs or leave the University. If you change jobs and take the lab coats with you, you must contact Mission Linen and have the bar code changed to reflect your new location to ensure that your lab coats are returned to you after laundering.