

Title: EHS Officer, Biosafety Program



Basic Function and Responsibility:

The Biosafety Officer will become part of the EHS Biosafety Program team that works to ensure the safe and responsible conduct of biological research at MIT. The Officer is expected to provide leadership and technical expertise in the areas of biological safety to both the research and campus community. The Officer will participate in an active and robust Biosafety Program involving strong and collaborative interactions with faculty, researchers, post-doctoral fellows and graduate and undergraduate students, the Occupational Health group at MIT Health, and the MIT community. The Officer will serve as a resource to assist in the resolution of complex issues and will be offered the opportunity to develop and manage programs within EHS. This position reports to the MIT Institutional Biosafety Officer.

- Facilitate the Biological Research Registration program.
- Perform a wide variety of biosafety training.
- Conduct laboratory inspections with DLCI EHS staff.
- Provide guidance on laboratory design and renovation projects.
- Works with a variety of stakeholders to provide comprehensive oversight of a wide range of biological research.
- The Officer serves as a Biosafety Subject Matter Expert on a multi-disciplinary team of safety professionals.
- Provide expertise on laboratory and animal research and develop biosafety advice in collaboration with Biosafety staff that supports achievement of Institute academic and research objectives with due consideration of, and in compliance with, all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, guidance and good practices.
- Assist in all operations, tasks, technical matters, and processes of the Biosafety Program staff for multiple institution-wide programs such as OSHA Bloodborne Pathogen Program; Biological Research Registration Review and Approval Program; Select Agent and Toxin Control and Containment Program; Human Embryonic Stem Cell Research Oversight Program and other regulatory programs, including laboratory and research facility design; DEA Controlled Substances Oversight Program; USDA Import and Export permitting; DOT and IATA Shipping of Biological Materials.
- Assist in implementation of program goals surrounding Biological Research Registration risk assessment, Committee on Assessment of Biohazards (MIT's IBC), federal and state guidelines interpretation, integration with other Institute Committees on campus.
- Integrate with the other MIT EHS disciplines and serve as EHS Lead Contact or Team Member on assigned EHS-MS DLCI Teams.
- Participate in on-call rotational system providing routine and off-hours support when necessary to resolve emergency EHS issues and serve as specialist to emergency response groups.

- Perform other duties as directed by the MIT Institutional Biosafety Officer.

Skills, Knowledge and Expertise:

A minimum of an undergraduate degree in microbiology, biology, virology or related area with at least 4 years of experience is required. Experience in laboratory or animal research and a graduate degree in microbiology, biology, virology or related area would be an advantage. A working knowledge of the *NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules* (2024) and the *CDC/NIH Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories*, 6th edition is preferred.

Ability to develop strong working relationships with faculty conducting a wide range of biological research is necessary. Ability to develop practical advice that serves overall objectives in as safe a manner as is practical under the circumstances and as necessary to address important safety and other EHS concerns. Candidate must be able to communicate effectively in writing and orally. Previous teaching experience or other examples of effective communication of technical topics is desirable. Must have the ability to produce creative solutions to unusual problems, be self-motivated and detail oriented. Able to work effectively and efficiently with people at all levels and in all Institute constituencies, including hourly workers, students, staff, faculty, researchers and outside organizational representatives, consultants, professionals, government authorities and community groups.

Proficiency with Microsoft Office products and Adobe Acrobat preferred.