

Release for Laboratory Volunteers and Minors

George Mason University is committed to providing a safe and healthy laboratory environment by complying with applicable federal, state, and local regulations. You are responsible for observing safety precautions and guidance when in a George Mason University laboratory. There is a risk of exposure that you assume when you enter a laboratory.

Hazards that may be present in the laboratory include but are not limited to: toxics, flammables, corrosives (acids and bases), oxidizers, radioactive materials, allergens such as animal dandruff, sharp objects, extreme temperatures, and ultraviolet light. Specific hazards you may be exposed to through your work should be outlined in a work-specific risk assessment.

Persons who suffer allergic reactions, are pregnant, have sensitive skin, or have other medical issues should consult with a physician (and the Principal Investigator/Laboratory Supervisor [PI/LS] as necessary) prior to beginning any laboratory work or procedures. Safety Data Sheets (SDS) for the hazardous materials used in the laboratory are available for review in your laboratory. Basic personal protective equipment (PPE) (e.g., lab coat, eye protection, gloves, etc.) is required to be worn in laboratories. In some instances, additional PPE (e.g., respirator, hearing protection, etc.) may also be required. Training on certain types of PPE is required to be completed prior to its use.

I, the undersigned, accept and agree to the following terms and conditions in consideration for my use of George Mason University's research and instructional laboratory facilities.

- 1. Access to Facilities.** The facilities are being made available to me as an educational or research opportunity.
- 2. Health and Safety Risks.** I understand that George Mason University laboratories may contain hazardous substances and equipment. I will take every precaution necessary to protect my health and safety, and the health and safety of others. I will acquaint myself with and conduct my activities in accordance with all safety rules and safe operational procedures. If I am not familiar with or I do not know how to handle safely a substance or piece of equipment, I will seek assistance from qualified George Mason University personnel. I recognize that I may be subjected to potential risks, illnesses and injuries. I have made my own investigation of these risks, understand these risks and assume them knowingly and willingly.
- 3. No Medical Coverage.** I understand that if I am injured as a result of my activities at George Mason University, I am not covered by George Mason University insurance of any kind. It will be my responsibility to pay for emergency room care, doctors' services, hospitalization, and any other related costs, medical or non-medical. I will not be eligible to participate in George Mason University's health, disability or life insurance program.
- 4. Appropriate Conduct.** I agree to observe all applicable federal, state, university and departmental policies, rules and regulations that pertain to my conduct on campus and in the facilities. I agree that George Mason University officials may require me to leave the facilities if they believe that I have violated a policy, rule or regulation or if they believe that my conduct is inappropriate.
- 5. Confidentiality.** I agree not to disclose or to use, directly or indirectly, any proprietary or confidential research, data, trade secrets or other similar information of which I may become aware as a result of my activities in George Mason University's facilities.

- 6. ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND RELEASE OF CLAIMS.** Knowing the risks described above, I agree, on behalf of my family, heirs and personal representative(s), to assume all the risks and responsibilities surrounding my use of and access to George Mason University's laboratories. To the maximum extent permitted by law, I release, hold harmless and agree to indemnify George Mason University, its current and former officers, directors, faculty, staff, representatives, volunteers, employees, students, other trainees and agents, and their respective heirs and assigns, from and against any present or future claim, loss or liability for injury to person or property which I may suffer, or for which I may be liable to any other person, related to my use of- and access to the laboratories, resulting from any cause including but not limited to negligence by George Mason University, its current or former directors, officers, faculty, staff, representatives, volunteers, employees, students, other trainees or agents.

I have carefully read this Release for Laboratory Volunteers and Minors before signing it.

_____ Minor/Volunteer Printed Name	_____ Minor/Volunteer Signature	_____ Date
_____ Parent/Guardian Printed Name	_____ Parent/Guardian Signature	_____ Date

Relationship to Volunteer/Minor: _____

Principal Investigator/Laboratory Supervisor Name: _____

NOTE: If volunteer is less than 18 years of age, parent or guardian must sign.

Please submit completed forms to your PI/LS. A copy should be sent to the Environmental Health and Safety Office via fax to 703-993-8389.