

Radiation Safety

Number:	GOV-100-020
Audience:	Academic staff members, staff, students and visitors to the university community who are engaged in research or teaching activities involving ionizing or non-ionizing radiation
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Owner:	Associate Vice-President, Human Resources
Approved by:	Vice-President (Administration)
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Introduction

The University of Regina holds a Licence from the [Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#) for the use of nuclear substances and radiation devices. All procurement, use, storage, transfer, and disposal of these materials by a University employee under the auspices of the University is governed by the terms of this Licence. In addition, other radiation-emitting devices such as x-rays and lasers are covered by this policy.

Definitions

- **Ionizing Radiation** – consists of particles, X-rays, or gamma rays with sufficient energy to cause ionization in the medium through which it passes.
- **Non-Ionizing Radiation** – refers to any type of electromagnetic radiation that does not carry enough energy to ionize atoms or molecules.
- **Radioisotope Laboratories** – a conventional chemical laboratory.

Policy

The University of Regina is committed to protecting all members of the University community and the environment from any adverse effects resulting from the use of ionizing and non-ionizing radiation on campus. This will be achieved by:

- Ensuring all legislative requirements for the safe use, storage, transfer and disposal of radiation and radioactive materials are met.
- Using the As Low As Reasonably Achievable (ALARA) principle as the guiding principle for all decisions and actions concerning the use of radiation and radioactive materials.

The [Radiation Safety Program](#) has been developed and shall be maintained to ensure the required level of control without unduly hampering research. The Radiation Safety Program describes in detail the roles and responsibilities of the Vice-President (Administration), Permit Holders and individuals, for the safe use of radiation and radiation-emitting devices. The Program ensures compliance with legislative requirements (Federal/Provincial acts, regulations, standards and guidelines and Municipal by-laws pertaining to health, safety and the environment).

Roles and Responsibilities

Administrators will:

- Ensure that the President's Advisory Committee on Radiation Safety (PACRS) oversees and administers this Policy.
- Provide sufficient personnel and resources for the administration and enforcement of requirements and procedures following from this Policy.

The President's Advisory Committee on Radiation Safety (PACRS), will:

- Oversee and administer the Radiation Safety Policy, to ensure the safe use of radioactive material and radiation in education and research at the University of Regina, by the formulation of necessary programs and procedures.
- Establish and oversee a Radiation Safety Committee.

The Radiation Safety Committee (RSC) will:

- Formulate and implement the University of Regina policies, regulations and procedures governing the use of radioactive materials and radiation.

The Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) and Assistant Radiation Safety Officer will:

- Provide professional advice and assistance in all matters related to radiation and radioactive material safety.
- Keep procedures and practices for the use of radiation and radioactive material up to date.

All Permit Holders (Academic Staff Members) directing the use of radiation or radioactive materials will:

- Ensure that they and those working under their direction know and carefully follow all procedures in the University of Regina Radiation Safety Program.
- Have appropriate training as determined by the Radiation Safety Officer.
- Use the ALARA principle to guide all their actions and decisions, thereby minimizing exposure of themselves or others to radiation or radioactive materials.
- Ensure that no unauthorized person can gain access to radioactive materials under his or her control.
- Cooperate with and assist the University administration in carrying out this policy and the Radiation Safety Program to ensure compliance.

All persons using radioactive materials or radiation will:

- Know and follow all procedures in the University of Regina Radiation Safety Program.
- Have appropriate training as determined by the Radiation Safety Officer.
- Use the ALARA principle to guide all their actions and decisions, thereby minimizing exposure of themselves or others to radiation or radioactive materials.
- Seek additional information if they do not have the knowledge and training for a particular use of radiation or radioactive materials.
- Ensure that radioisotope laboratories and storage areas are locked, and that no unauthorized person is given access to radioactive materials.

All members of the University community are responsible for:

- Following the directions of all radiation warning signs or instructions.

- Keeping out of unauthorized areas.

Consequences for Noncompliance

All members of the University community are subject to the requirements of this policy. Violations place the University at significant risk and are subject to appropriate corrective administrative, academic or non-academic discipline and could result in disciplinary action up to and including termination of the member's position with the University, or in the case of a student, an academic suspension. Significant legal penalties may also be assessed by the [Canadian Nuclear Safety Commission](#) under the authority of applicable radiation specific Acts and Regulations.

Related Information

- [Radiation Safety Program](#)