

## TRANSPORT OF BIOHAZARDOUS MATERIALS AT UNL (INCLUDING RESEARCH AND CLINICAL SPECIMENS/MATERIALS)

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### Scope

This SOP is specifically for on-campus and inter-campus transport of biohazardous materials between work locations at UNL by UNL personnel. This SOP does not apply to transport by commercial carriers. Biohazardous materials may include:

- recombinant and/or synthetic nucleic acids (r/sNA) or materials and organisms containing r/sNA;
- pathogens of any kind including biological toxins or animals, tissues, cells or microorganisms containing pathogens or toxins;
- genetically-modified plants, animals, microorganisms, or cell lines

Off-site transport may be subject to additional regulations administered by other Federal Departments/Agencies including but not limited to: Department of Transportation, Centers for Disease Control, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Fish and Wildlife, and Department of Commerce.

### Procedures

Observe the following safe work practices when transporting biological materials on-campus between work locations:

- Transport in a labeled and sealed primary container within a sealed, leak-proof secondary container (e.g., Rubbermaid®-type container, portable cooler, etc.). Disinfect the outside of the secondary container with an appropriate disinfectant before transporting.
- Absorbent material should be placed in the bottom of the secondary container.
- Within the secondary container, place printed information about the material being transported inside the container inside a sealable (e.g. Ziploc) bag. Information should include the name of the material and originating lab information (PI name, building and room) at a minimum. Including other agent hazard information is recommended.
  - **Example:** *Salmonella infantis*, Smith Lab, FIC 237
  - **Example:** Plasmids containing rDNA (Non-pathogenic), Jones Lab, Beadle N113



Use of public transportation to transport biohazardous materials is discouraged, and **PROHIBITED** for transport of human pathogens or materials contaminated with human pathogens.<sup>§</sup>



- If human pathogens or human or non-human primate materials are being transported, the **universal biohazard symbol** must be visible on the outside of the secondary container.
- After use, disinfect (for biohazards) or clean (for toxins) the inside and outside of the secondary container. Refer to the EHS SOP, ***Chemical Disinfectants for Biohazardous Materials***.
- Avoid public areas and elevators if possible.
- Although a spill is unlikely when this protocol is followed, a spill protocol should be prepared in advance. Refer to the EHS SOP, ***Spill and Exposure Response for Biohazardous Materials (Including Recombinant and Synthetic Nucleic Acids)***.
- In the event of theft, loss, or release notify the UNL Police Department and EHS immediately.

### **Other EHS SOPs related to interstate, intrastate, import, or export of biological agents:**

- Import and Transfer of Etiologic and Other CDC Regulated Agents
- Importing Animals and Animal Products
- Non-genetically Engineered Plant-Related Articles Requiring APHIS Permits
- Packaging and Shipping Hazardous Materials/Dangerous Goods
- Shipping Biological Substances and Patient Specimens
- Shipping Infectious Substances With or Without Dry Ice



*§ If you do not have another means of transport between campuses, please contact EHS for assistance.*