**OVERVIEW**: This document serves two purposes:

1. It provides guidance regarding the concerns EHS has with students performing hands-on active learning experiences at home, including laboratory experiments. EHS seeks to ensure that tasks students are performing at home for their classes do not pose hazards to the students, people with whom they live, or the environment.
2. It includes a form to request EHS approval for laboratory or studio work that students will perform at home.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Review the guidelines below regarding requirements for EHS approval
2. If your proposed activity is not already on the [approved list](https://ehs.psu.edu/sites/ehs/files/approved_home_lab_kits.pdf), use the form below to request review of your “lab at home”. Provide as much detail as you can, as the review process will be much faster if we do not need additional information from you.
3. Submit the completed form to [psuehs@psu.edu](mailto:psuehs@psu.edu) for review. Submit this at least two weeks in advance of the anticipated activity date (or earlier if supplies must be purchased) to allow sufficient time for review.

**GUIDELINES:**

1. Work that students will perform at home must not require special ventilation. Activities that would normally be performed in a fume hood or under a snorkel will not be approved.
2. Labs performed at home should not require PPE.
3. Experiments that generate hazardous waste will not be approved for home use. Chemical waste may not be poured down the drain!
4. Infectious materials may not be used at home. This includes materials from humans, such as urine or blood.
5. Labs involving food should include alternatives for students with food allergies.
6. Remember that your students will not be working in a controlled laboratory environment. Their homes may include small children, pets, or family members with respiratory sensitivities.
7. Paints and other supplies used should be marked with the ASTM Non-Toxic label.

**APPROVAL REQUEST FORM:**

**Contact information**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Your name |  |
| Department |  |
| Campus |  |
| Email |  |
| Phone |  |

**Details**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Provide a clear description of the activity students will be performing. |  |
| Provide a list of the materials (chemicals, equipment, etc.) that will be provided to students. If the material is a commercially available kit, 9provide links to the specific kit and explain how students will obtain the kit. |  |
| Attach a Safety Data Sheet (SDS) for each chemical being used. |  |
| List the materials the students are expected to provide for themselves. |  |