

# UC BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards

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# UC BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards

- High Containment Laboratory Oversight Committee  
Governance and Structure of UC Program
- BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards Overview  
Application  
Deviation Requests  
Revisions
- BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards Content  
Document Layout  
Section Highlights
- BSL-3 Laboratory Design Training Course

# What is Biosafety Level 3?

## Laboratory Practices & Procedures



## Facility Design, Engineering & Performance



# Why the focus at UC?

*CDC: Up to 86 workers possibly exposed to anthrax (CNN June 27, 2014)*

*C.D.C. Closes Anthrax and Flu Labs After Accidents (New York Times, July 11, 2014)*

*Vials of Smallpox Found in F.D.A. Storage Room (New York Times July 8, 2014)*

*FDA found more than smallpox vials in storage room (Washington Post, July 16, 2014)*

*Smallpox find was among hundreds of other long-lost vials, FDA says (LA Times, July 16, 2014)*

## University of California

Prompted evaluation of BSL-3 program

Emphasize safety and consistency

Establish policies and minimum guidelines

# University of California High Containment Initiative

## High Containment Research Activities

Facilities at 8 different campuses, 5 Medical Centers

Thirty-two active research labs

Animal facilities

Insectaries

Plant facilities

Select Agent use

Approximately 235 researchers

Medical Center Clinical Diagnostic Labs

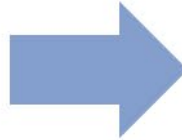


# UC High Containment Lab Initiatives – Task Force Formed

**2014**

Biosafety / Biosecurity  
Task Force

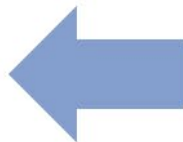
All Recommendations  
Accepted by  
President Napolitano  
(2015)



5 Faculty  
1 Campus Vet  
3 OP Staff (EH&S, Compliance, Research)

2 High Cont. Experts  
2 BSO's

2 Lawyers  
1 AVC



Submitted 39 recommendations

Survey  
Best Practices  
Training

Inventory  
Design, Construction  
Commissioning, Decommissioning



# UC High Containment Lab Initiatives – Key Objectives Identified

2015

## President's Communication

Establish Systemwide High Containment Lab Oversight Committee

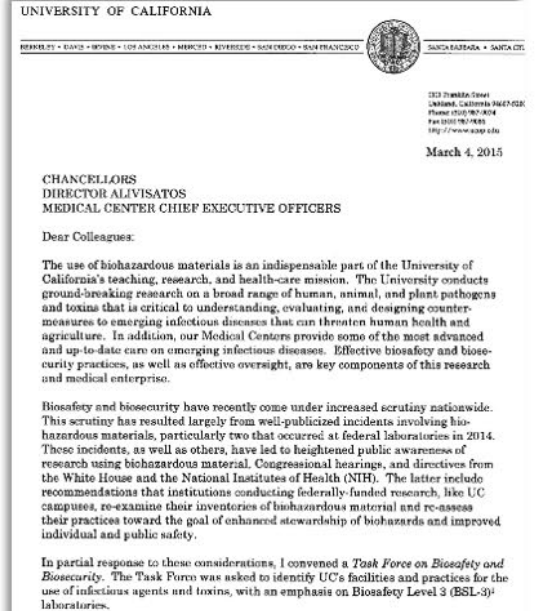
Establish Local High Containment Lab Oversight Groups

Establish High Containment Lab Director positions

Provide High Containment Lab Directors Training

Perform BSL3 Site Survey

Conduct Biohazardous Materials Inventory



# High Containment Laboratory Oversight Committee

## High Containment Laboratory Oversight Group



### BSL3 Training Center



Occupational  
Health



Finance



Police /  
Security



Leadership  
/ VCR



Researchers  
/ Faculty /  
HCLOG  
Chair



EHS / High  
Containment  
Lab Director



Facilities



First  
Responders



# UC High Containment Lab Initiatives – Accomplishments

## 2015 - 2020

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Established and convened High Containment Laboratory Oversight Committee (Systemwide Level)

Developed and approved charge and charter for the HCLOC

Established and convened High Containment Laboratory Oversight Groups (Campus Level)

Hired and provided training to High Containment Laboratory Oversight Directors

Conducted first comprehensive survey of UC BSL-3 Laboratory Facilities

Conducted first comprehensive survey of UC Medical Center Clinical Diagnostic Facilities

Developed and adopted UC BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards

<https://www.ucop.edu/safety-and-loss-prevention/environmental/groups/hcloc/bsl-3-laboratory-design-standards.html>

# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Overview

## References and Resource Documents

CDC Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL), 5th Edition, 2009

NIH Design Requirements Manual for Biomedical Laboratories and Animal Research Facilities (DRM), 2019

NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules (NIH Guidelines), 2016

National Institutes of Health Biosafety Level 3 Laboratory Certification Requirements, 2006

Industry Standards and Best Practices



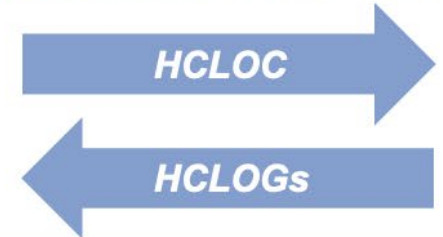
# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Overview

## Overview of Key Points

- Development of the UC BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards
- Application to new construction and renovation projects
- Deviation requests
- On-going revisions and updates to the Standards
- Campus involvement in design projects



Systemwide Coordination



# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Overview

## Application to Campus Projects

New BSL-3 facility construction

Major renovations & retrofits – alterations to:

- Fixed primary containment equipment (ducted biosafety cabinets)

- Major HVAC components (exhaust fans, AHUs)

- Floorplans or secondary containment components (walls, ceilings, etc.)

- Any other changes that could impact safety, operations, or ventilation performance



# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Overview

## Deviation Request Process and Flowchart



## Deviation Requests

Campus must comply with these Standards

Processes developed to support deviation requests



# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Overview

## Revisions and Updates

HCLOC meets quarterly via conference calls

HCLOC has one annual in-person meeting

Full review and revisions every two years, on even years

As-needed revisions and updates as identified during projects

HCLOC responsible for authorizing and approving updates, then distributed to HCLOGs (Campuses)



# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Overview

## Campus Involvement

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PI (researcher)/Department Chair

EH&S Biosafety

High Containment Laboratory Director

Campus Design Management Group

Capital Programs

UC Building Officials

Campus ADA Reviewer

Campus Security or Campus Police  
Department

Campus Emergency Response

Campus Fire Marshal

Campus Facilities Operations &  
Management Group

# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Content

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# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Content

## Document Layout

Each section contains:

**Standard** – minimum UC requirements

**Explanation** – details about the standard requirements and what they support

**Best Design Practice** – design elements and considerations that support best practices related to facility construction, operations and maintenance

### BSL-3 Architectural

General		
Standard	Explanation	Best Design Practice
1. New UC BSL-3 laboratories and designated retrofits must be reviewed for compliance with applicable provisions of the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and related codes and regulations.	1. Access to the BSL-3 laboratory and work activities conducted in the facility must be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to determine appropriate accommodations and accessibility. Work with the appropriate units on campus to determine specific ADA design requirements and compliance with Title 24 California Building Code Chapter 11 Accessibility.	1. N/A

# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Content

## Section Highlights

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### **Architectural**

ADA requirements

Ceilings, floors, windows, doors, etc.

### **HVAC**

Directional airflow

6 air changes per hour (ACH)

Dedicated single pass exhaust

### **Electrical**

Penetrations

Back-up power / Emergency power

### **Plumbing**

Showers

Sinks

Vacuum lines, traps, drains



# BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Content

## Section Highlights

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### **Telecom, Security & Documentation**

Access doors

Warning signage

BSL-3 Laboratory Design Standards - Content

Commissioning documents

### **Safety and Decontamination**

Emergency shower and eyewash

Sprinkler systems / extinguishers

### **BSL-3 Standard Equipment**

Pass-through autoclaves

Biosafety cabinets

Centrifuges

