LAB COAT LAUNDRY SERVICE:
Laundry Process, Laundry Locations,
Leaving/Switching Labs and FAQs

LAUNDRY PROCESS

- Lab coats are picked up/dropped off on **Wednesdays** (during major holidays, pick ups and drop offs will be on Tuesday) by Mission Linen, the campus’ laundry vendor
- Only EH&S-issued lab coats are eligible for free laundry services

Laundry Instructions:

**Before having coats laundered, please ensure coats 1) are issued by EH&S, 2) are NOT wet or damp, and 3) have empty pockets**

⇒ Place soiled coats in the tall, metal laundry bin at your assigned* laundry location
⇒ It takes about 2-3 weeks for Mission Linen to launder and return coats
⇒ Laundered coats will be returned to the rack at your laundry location

LAUNDRY LOCATIONS

Laundry locations are assigned* by department or lab location and each location has a unique Mission Linen barcode (placed on the collar of each coat).

There are 6 laundry drop off/pick up locations:

1. **Medical Sciences C**
   Loading Dock (Med Sci C-142)
   Mission Linen Barcode 266137

2. **Engineering Tower**
   Loading Dock (ET 105)
   Mission Linen Barcode 266138
   Door Code: 900763

3. **Frederick Reines Hall**
   Physical Sciences Store (B003D)
   Mission Linen Barcode 693410

4. **McGaugh Hall**
   Loading Dock (MH 1439D)
   Mission Linen Barcode 266139

5. **Environmental Health & Safety**
   PPE Fitting Room (EHS 109)
   Mission Linen Barcode 024578

6. **UCI Medical Center**
   Building 55 (3rd Floor)
   Mission Linen Barcode 267875

* Email ehs-ppe@uci.edu if you do not know your assigned laundry location
**SWITCHING LABS**

If you are switching to another lab, take your lab coats and safety eyewear with you to your new lab.

PPE (lab coats, safety glasses and splash goggles) are issued to you and not the lab.

- Ask your new Principal Investigator (PI) or Lab Manager to add you to the lab’s LHAT Roster.
- Review/acknowledge the lab’s Hazard Assessment after being added to the roster.
- Email ehs-ppe@uci.edu to inform of your new lab location; provide your PI’s full name.
  
  ⇒ EH&S will check whether you have the necessary lab coats for your new lab and whether your assigned laundry location should be changed.

**LEAVING THE LAB/UCI**

Let EH&S know you are leaving the lab or UCI by emailing ehs-ppe@uci.edu.

Return your lab coats by:

- Dropping coats off at EH&S.
- Dropping coats off in the “Separation Bin” (plastic hampers) at any laundry location.
- Before returning coats, make sure pockets are empty and coats are dry.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

My PI has several lab coats already in the lab. Can I just wear one of those?
Per CalOSHA Title 8, Section 3380, “general use” lab coats should not be used in the lab. Each member of a lab must have lab coats and safety glasses fitted to them.

I received two of the same type of coat. Is this a mistake?
Each lab member is issued at least 2 coats. The extra coat is provided for you to wear while the other is being laundered. Please do not have all your coats laundered at the same time or you will not have the necessary PPE to work in the lab.

I dropped off my lab coat for laundering over 3 weeks ago and cannot find it. What do I do?
If it has been more than 3 weeks and you cannot find your lab coat(s), please email ehs-ppe@uci.edu and include the following information: your PI’s full name, type of coat(s) missing and the 6-digit ID (UC-XXXXXX or UCI-XXXXXX) for each coat, your assigned laundry location, and date of lab coat drop off.

Is my flame-resistant (FR) lab coat chemically treated?
No—the blue FR lab coats provided by EH&S are made of Nomex, a heat- and flame-resistant material.

What’s the difference between a soiled coat and a contaminated coat?
Deciding whether a coat should be laundered or treated as hazardous waste is a judgment call and depends on the hazardous material involved, quantity, etc. Consult the Safety Data Sheet and/or call EH&S at 949-824-6200 for guidance if you are uncertain.

Can I keep my lab coats when I leave the lab or UCI?
No—EH&S has setup a lab coat recycling/reuse program to increase sustainability of the Lab PPE Program and minimize the number of new coats needing to be purchased.