

FACT SHEET: Lab Coats

Required when working with or nearby to hazardous chemicals, BL2 or higher biological materials, and open sources of radiation.



Recommended Features

- Clean + fits well
- Snap closures
- Appropriate material for hazard(s)
- Tight cuffs

Choose the right lab coat

Standard Polyester/Cotton



Low-risk lab work with chemicals, biologicals, and radioisotopes.

Flame Resistant (FR) Materials

FR-Cotton



Cotton with a flame-resistant treatment.

Nomex



Inherently flame-resistant.

FR-Chemical Protective



FR coats with added resistance to many chemicals, particularly corrosives.

FR required when handling pyrophorics outside a glove box. Confirm your coat is FR by checking the label.

What you should do

- New work? Assess to determine PPE & other controls.
- Proper fit to cover your skin.
- Replace damaged or soiled lab coats with new or cleaned ones.
- Never take lab coats home!



Contact your DLC EHS Coordinator with questions and for DLC-specific requirements.

For more information on lab coat selection, use, supply, and laundry, go to https://labcoats.mit.edu.

