Safety Policies for Physics Laboratories

Students are expected to follow the Safety Policies of this department while in the laboratory. Most accidents occur when students do not follow instructions or try to improvise upon given instructions.

Failure of a student to comply fully with these regulations and procedures will result in the student being referred to the Head of the Department of Chemistry and Physics for further action commensurate with the nature and gravity of the student’s breach of his or her responsibilities.

1. Each individual is responsible for being familiar with the location and proper operation of the safety equipment.
2. Each individual is responsible for performing his or her job safely.
3. Each individual should study each experiment in advance to familiarize himself or herself with possible safety hazards.
4. No unauthorized experiment is to be conducted at any time.
5. When radioactive materials or potentially hazardous chemicals are in use, there will be no eating, drinking, or chewing of gum for the duration of the experiment.
6. Appropriate eye wear is required in physics laboratories whenever dangers from projectiles, chemicals, light or other sources are present, as indicated by the instructor.
7. When working with electricity, any metallic jewelry (watches, rings, bracelets, etc.) should be removed.
8. Appropriate clothing must be worn.
9. Long hair should be worn in a style that will prevent its entanglement in machinery.
10. The work area is to be cleaned prior to and after the experiment. Equipment is to be returned to the location designated on the lab inventory sheet in drawer 1 of each lab station, or to a location designated by the instructor.
11. The use of any personal entertainment device is prohibited in the laboratory.
12. These are general procedures to be used in all labs. However, certain labs may have additional safety procedures. These additional procedures must be adhered to in those labs.

Accident and Emergency Procedures

1. Each individual must report any accident to the laboratory instructor. The lab instructor will give a written report to the Head of the Department of Chemistry and Physics and a copy to the chairman of the Safety Committee.
2. If appropriate, the instructor will follow the PROCEDURE FOR MEDICAL EMERGENCY as furnished by Armstrong Atlantic State University and prominently posted on campus. The