

Hazardous Material Transportation Compliance and Safety

At the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

What is hazardous material?

At UNC-Chapel Hill, examples of hazardous material includes alcohol, acid, solvents, compressed gas, dry ice, most laboratory samples and chemicals, radioactive material, as well as certain cleaners, pesticides and paint. Any package that arrives with a diamond-shaped DOT label is a hazardous material.

What are the laws for handling and transporting hazardous material?

U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) and other agencies strictly regulate the transport of hazardous material. Failure to comply with these laws risks the safety of people who drive, fly or transport hazardous material. Non-compliance is also subject to large fines (up to \$37,000 per violation) and, in egregious cases, imprisonment.

What is required to ship or receive hazardous material?

Whenever transported to or from campus, hazardous material must be handled, packaged, labeled, marked and transported according to specific federal requirements. People who perform these and other functions must be trained and certified.

Who must be trained to handle shipments of hazardous material?

Training and certification is required if you:

- Load, unload or handle shipments of hazardous material.
- Prepare hazardous material for transport.
- Operate a vehicle used to transport hazardous material.

Employees who work in receiving areas or loading docks need to be trained and certified, as do employees who handle hazardous material shipments. Be sure that trained personnel supervise all shipments—even if others prepare the package, or if you only follow shipping directions. New employees who may handle or ship hazardous material must attend training and be certified prior to performing those duties. Refresher training is required every two years.

How can I receive the required training and certificate? See training schedule

Contact Environment Health & Safety (EHS) to obtain training. EHS offers certification and training for chemical and biological material. We can provide basic and function-specific training.

Where can I get more information about transporting hazardous material?

For transporting infectious substances, biological material, or chemicals contact Daniel Vick 962-5712.