

About CT Department of Public Health (DPH) Registration

- CT DPH registration is required for labs that use microorganisms that are infectious to humans (see the regulation in the BIO-Laws folder). [Note: If you use human blood and/or tissues (and therefore universal precautions) you may encounter infectious agents in your work, but unless you intentionally work with the agents or store infectious tissues, you don't need to register. The typical scenario is that the blood and/or tissues come into your lab and are fixed or disinfected for your work, or are processed and disinfected (e.g., autoclaved) upon disposal, or if you learned through testing that the blood and/or tissues were infectious you would disinfect them and dispose of them.]
- Registration requires a pre-inspection by the Biological Safety Officer (BSO) and a formal inspection by the State Inspector. It's usually good to get your lab set up for use, and have the pre-inspection far enough before the formal inspection, that there is time for corrections. *Be sure any biological safety cabinets (BSCs) in the inspected area have been certified within the past year.*
- The area that needs to be inspected includes only those rooms where the infectious agent will be used.
- Do not use infectious agents in your lab until the lab is registered. However, you may have them shipped in and store them in the lab (e.g., frozen) before registration (**IMPORTANT**: allow lead time to be sure to use proper transporting procedures and permitting procedures [USDA and/or CDC] – contact the BSO *before* shipping).
- Registration Procedure: 1) The process takes up to two weeks. 2) When you know that you are within a week of having your lab set up for work (including having the BSC(s) certified; use the appropriate inspection checklist in the forms folder to check your lab's preparedness), notify the BSO (x2723) that you will be ready for a pre-inspection within a week. 3) The BSO will request an inspection date from the DPH. 4) The registration form should be completed at least by the DPH inspection date, but preferably by the pre-inspection date. 5) Between 3 days to 1 week prior to the DPH date, the BSO will pre-inspect. 6) Any deficiencies will be corrected prior to the DPH inspection. 7) The DPH will inspect. 8) If there are still deficiencies, they will need correction before the DPH certificate is given. 9) The State DPH inspector will notify the applicant at the end of the inspection about the status of the inspection. If the inspection was successful, work with the infectious agents can begin.