Bio Basics Fact Sheet:  
U of M Requirements for Working at Biosafety Level 2 (BSL2) Including Attenuated Lab and Vaccine Strains

Purpose:

To provide a concise check list of the requirements University of Minnesota research labs must meet in order to work at Biosafety Level 2. The intent is to provide a safe work environment and to meet compliance regulations.

Requirements:

• Perform risk assessments for the work to be done with each organism in order to determine potential hazards, risk of exposure to those hazards, and appropriate exposure control techniques to be implemented.
• Use the information gathered in the above risk assessment to write Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs).
• Before work is started, receive Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC) approval by submitting SOPs and an application form to the committee. Approved protocols are effective for three years with annual review.

NOTE: Laboratory space assignment and animal housing biosafety levels must be included as part of the IBC approval process.

• Certify biological safety cabinets annually.
• Complete NIH Required IBC Training Presentations through IBC, http://www.research.umn.edu/ibc/training.html if work involves recombinant DNA material or artificial gene transfer.
• Provide annual lab-specific safety training including review of SOPs. Document training.
• All workers must complete annual Bloodborne Pathogen/Infectious Material training. This may be done through the worker’s department or Environmental Health and Safety.
• Follow all procedures for working at BSL 2 in Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL) 5th Edition and the Biosafety Manual section of the DEHS web page.
• Complete an annual biosafety evaluation and biological materials inventory update with Environmental Health and Safety.