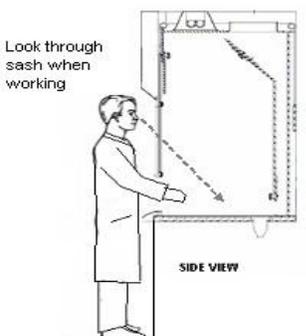




Fume Hood Safety

**Health and Safety
Questions-AskEHS.**
<http://www.ehs.cornell.edu/AskEHS>



:: Guidelines for Safe Hood Use ::

- Keep the sash as low as possible, always making sure it is between you and your work.
- Always use an airflow indicator (tell tail) and be sure it is blowing into the hood. If your hood does not have an indicator, tape a tissue on the sash or call EHS.
- Keep lab doors and windows closed at all times for maximum hood performance and to maintain negative pressure in the room.
- Limit traffic near hoods when in use so hood capture is not compromised by air currents.
- Reduce clutter and do not store chemicals in the hood; Airflow can be impeded; especially to the lower openings. Elevate items one or two inches to allow airflow underneath to the rear baffles (a small shelf or blocks will work for this).
- Work *at least* six inches into the hood at all times.
- If hoses or cords must be inserted through the face of the hood, run them underneath the airfoil so the sash can close completely.

:: Other Considerations ::

- If there is a potential for an explosion, use additional shielding. Fume hood sashes are not rated for explosion protection.
- Protect against blockage of ducts; lightweight materials (foil or tissues) can easily be sucked into the vents.
- Other than sash height and baffle adjustment, never make changes to a hood without the advice of EHS. The exhaust for another piece of equipment should also not be injected into the face of the hood.
- In a power outage, lower the sash.
- Fuming perchloric acid must only be used in a specially designed perchloric acid fume hood with a wash down function to avoid an explosion hazard.
- When not in use- *Shut the sash* for safety and to conserve energy!
- If you would like your hood temporarily shut down to conserve energy contact your building coordinator who will work the Energy Management Office in Facilities.

If your hood is not working properly (ie: low or no flow, noticeable fumes, excessive noise, broken sash, lights not working, etc...) please contact your building coordinator for repair.