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Regulatory Update...*New Radiation Requirements*

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Throughout its history, Fermilab has been committed to protecting the public, our users and our employees from the hazards of ionizing radiation. The Department of Energy provides detailed guidance regarding occupational radiation safety in 10CFR835. This standard was recently amended to include additional requirements that should improve the effectiveness of the current program. This update discusses those amendments that pertain to Fermilab and provides answers to some of the more commonly asked questions regarding them.

Radiological Standards

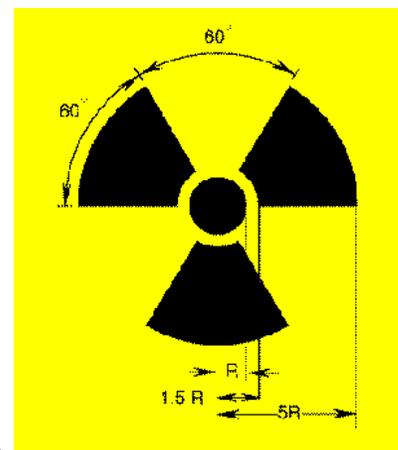
Entrances to areas where radioactive materials are handled, used, or stored will be posted with ***Radioactive Material Area*** signs. These areas may also be posted as a ***Controlled Area***; this is where low levels of radiation from the accelerator or radioactive materials could be present.

So, what training is required to enter these areas?

At a minimum, General Employee Radiation Training (GERT) must be completed before unescorted access is permitted to areas posted as a Controlled Area and/or Radioactive Material Area. In fact, all employees are encouraged to take GERT. To sign up for this course go to the ES&H Section home page.

What training is required to work with radioactive materials?

Radiological Worker Training is required to work with radioactive materials. Additionally, Radioactive Source Training



is required to work with radioactive sources to ensure safe handling procedures and reinforce the responsibilities associated with being a source user.

Do I have to wear a TLD badge to enter these areas?

No, dosimetry is not required to enter areas posted only as a Controlled Area and/or Radioactive Material Area. However, dosimetry is required for entry into places posted as Radiation Areas, High Radiation Areas and Contamination Areas, etc.

Can I escort visitors into Controlled Areas?

Yes, individuals with GERT may escort visitors into Controlled Areas.

Conduct of Radiological Work

10CFR835 now requires written work authorization for entry into a designated radiological area. A Radiation Work Permit (RWP) can serve to provide this, but alternative means are allowed and will be developed by members of the Radiological Control Organization.

What is an RWP?

An RWP is a document that provides a description of the work being performed, requirements that must be met prior to performing the work, and serves to inform people about the radiological conditions they will encounter. This document also provides information regarding training, dosimetry and protective clothing requirements.

Who should I call if I have a question?

Any questions regarding the RWP should be directed to the Radiation Safety Officer (RSO) for the division/section responsible for the work being performed.

Radioactive Materials

10CFR835 was amended to include requirements for radioactive sources and other radioactive materials.

How are radioactive materials labeled?

All equipment, components and other items that are considered to be radioactive, as well as sealed and unsealed sources must be labeled with a "Caution Radioactive Material" label. Fermilab has also established a class labeling system based upon existing exposure rates. This system has been in place for many years and should be familiar to radiation workers.

Training and Qualification

General requirements for radiological worker training have been expanded and clarified.

RADIOLOGICAL WORKER TRAINING
STUDY GUIDE

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So, who needs radiological worker training?

Anyone who will be entering areas posted as a "Radiation Area" or will be working with radioactive materials.

How often must this training be completed?

All training discussed here, including GERT, must be completed every two years.

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[Non-Occupational Exposures](#)
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