PART I – PURPOSE

This section outlines policy and procedures for access to ceiling spaces containing or suspected of containing asbestos fireproofing and/or asbestos thermal insulation.

PART II – POLICY

Work that may disturb asbestos but is not intended to result in intentional asbestos removal shall be controlled in accordance with this section as well as Cal/OSHA requirements for Class III asbestos work contained in 8 CCR 1529 and general requirements of 8 CCR 5208. Moving ceiling tiles or horizontal hatches to access ceiling spaces with asbestos fireproofing or containing debris from asbestos thermal insulation is Class III asbestos work. The university representative may approve modifications to these procedures. This section outlines minimum requirements. Controls that exceed these requirements may be used.

PART III – PROCEDURES

A. Training

Personnel performing work in spaces containing or suspected of containing asbestos material shall have a minimum of 16 hours of OSHA/EPA certified training for Class III work by an accredited Asbestos Certifying Agency. If the 16 hour training certification is unavailable, than a OSHA/EPA 32 hour Worker Training will have to be obtained. In addition, the Supervisor is required to have a 40 hour Supervisor Training Certification. The OSHA/EPA certified (AHERA) worker or supervisor training qualifies the individual for Class III worker and Class III competent person work.

B. Competent Person

A Competent Person (either AHERA – 40 hour trained or Class III 16 hour trained) shall inspect the area to determine precautions prior to entry, to determine that the controlled area is properly established, and to determine that appropriate cleanup has occurred at the end of the job. The person performing the work may serve as the competent person as well.

C. Standard Access Procedure

1. Mini-enclosure

Use an asbestos mini-enclosure, or an equivalent enclosure constructed on site. Use a HEPA filter vacuum to create a negative pressure in the enclosure. The enclosure must be posted with warning signs bearing the following information: DANGER, ASBESTOS, CANCER AND LUNG DISEASE HAZARD, AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY. Access into the enclosure must be restricted to trained personnel. Any debris generated by ceiling access must be cleaned up by HEPA vacuum immediately.

Before leaving the enclosure carefully examine clothing and bottoms of shoes and remove any debris with a HEPA vacuum. At the end of the job disposable clothing must be removed at the site and bagged as asbestos waste. Use a labeled asbestos waste bag. Close the bag, label it and ensure it is delivered to the hazardous waste disposal yard. After completion of these procedures for ceiling tile removal, the enclosure may be moved and the ceiling left open until the end of the shift, unless additional requirements are imposed by Infection Control. The same controls used for ceiling tile removal must be used for ceiling tile...
replacement. Any debris generated by ceiling tile replacement must be cleaned up by HEPA vacuum immediately. If necessary, the ceiling opening may be closed with plastic sheeting and duct tape.

2. Air sampling

   Periodic air sampling is required when the project requires extensive ceiling access to verify that ceiling tile access is not resulting in elevated asbestos exposures. The air sampling frequency will be established by the University. When this is required the University will provide the air monitoring. When air samples are performed, a 30-minute sample must be collected. If the operation lasts beyond 30 minutes, an additional sample must be collected for the remainder of the operation.

3. Clean up of debris

   All debris shall be cleaned up promptly. The floor of the mini-enclosure shall be HEPA vacuumed before moving.

4. Personal Protective Equipment

   Typical protective equipment for class III work shall be disposable coveralls (e.g., Tyvek) and respirator with HEPA filter cartridges suitable for asbestos protection.

D. Ceiling space crawl where there is asbestos fire proofing or asbestos debris may be present (no abatement work)

1. Protective equipment will be as for ceiling access, single layer Tyvek and filtering facepiece respirator required. If employee notices tear of outer coverall during work - use duct tape to repair tears to outer coverall, or exit and replace outer cover. Remove and bag coverall and respirator in mini-enclosure as in ceiling access procedure. If coveralls were torn, vacuum any noticeable debris from underlying clothing. Clothing must be changed at work and may not be taken home.

2. Control of debris during ceiling crawls. In all cases vacuum clearly recognizable insulation debris in the immediate area of the ceiling access. If practical, vacuum visible insulation debris for the full path of travel. If this is not practical the employee must use other procedures to ensure safe removal of visible insulation debris in the path of travel that would be disturbed by the crawl. For example, wet paper towels and plastic bags may be used to pick up and contain visible debris. Other control methods may be used provided they meet the following criteria:
   • dry sweeping is not permitted
   • employees must not walk on, crawl on or otherwise crush visible clearly recognizable insulation debris
   • the control method must not result in a release of airborne fibers.

D. HEPA filter testing and certification

   The HEPA vacuum for ceiling work and HEPA filter for mini-enclosure must have passed DOP testing within 12 months and must be re-certified after filter replacement.

E. Access for inspection after ceiling tile has been moved and the mini-enclosure removed
Inspection above the ceiling, after ceiling tile has been moved and the mini-enclosure removed, may be performed without special asbestos awareness training or protective equipment. Access of this type is limited to visual inspection through the ceiling opening. Full entry to the space or ceiling crawl must meet the requirements of paragraphs C and D of this section. Personnel who perform this work must be notified that asbestos is present in the area and of which materials in the area contain asbestos.

G. Asbestos Waste Management

Personnel are required to appropriately bag all asbestos debris, disposable personal protective equipment, and other materials potentially contaminated with asbestos. Bags shall be clear, 6 mil, imprinted with the required asbestos warning. Appropriate packaging includes double-bagging, and wetting the materials in the inner bag. Each bag shall be legibly marked with the UC Davis Medical Center address and EPA ID number (CAD 076124981).

For those projects generating five (5) or fewer bags of asbestos-contaminated materials, UCDHS Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) will manage the disposal of the bags; contact EH&S at 916-734-2740 for disposal. Materials must be bagged and marked as described above prior to EH&S acceptance.

Asbestos disposal is the responsibility of the Contractor on those projects generating more than five (5) bags of asbestos-contaminated material. If a Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest is required for transportation, such manifest must be signed by a representative of UCDHS EH&S.

END OF SECTION 01562