

## Utah Water Research Laboratory (UWRL) Guidelines for Minors in UWRL Research Facilities

### **Minors in UWRL Research Facilities**

Minors, defined as any individual under the age of 18, may request the opportunity to study or work at the Utah Water Research Laboratory (UWRL) to gain valuable knowledge and experience. The UWRL recognizes the importance of the educational and outreach missions of the Utah State University (USU) and the need to maintain a safe environment for all employees, students, and visitors. The purpose of these guidelines is to identify when minors will be allowed to conduct research in a UWRL research facility where potentially hazardous materials or conditions exist.

No individual under the age of 16 may enter a UWRL laboratory unless he/she is participating in an organized educational program sponsored by his/her school and approved by the Director of the UWRL.

**No individual between the ages of 16 and 18 may enter a laboratory or other work area with potentially hazardous conditions unless the individual is:**

- A documented USU employee or student;
- Part of a group or individual educational program approved in advance by the UWRL Director; or
- Working directly with an UWRL mentor and all planned activities to be performed by the individual have been approved in advance by the UWRL director.

Any UWRL faculty or staff member planning to serve as a mentor must submit to the UWRL Director a request that provides the name and age of the student(s) and describes the educational intent of the proposed experience (refer to form “UWRL Minors Registration Form”). The UWRL Director may require the mentor to obtain additional approval of the planned activity by the USU Environmental Health and Safety Department (EH&S).

**Additional responsibilities for any faculty or research staff member planning to bring a minor into UWRL facilities include:**

- Provide hazard specific safety training with the minor in conjunction with the USU EH&S Department.
- Provide personal protective equipment, specific for any hazard, with instructions for proper use and disposal.
- Ensure the minor is supervised at all times while in the facility and never left alone.
- Ensure the laboratory/facility is in full compliance with all applicable USU and UWRL safety policies and regulations.
- Ensure that all minors are *prohibited from working with* radioactive materials, radiation generating equipment (X-rays), lasers or acutely toxic chemicals.