



UNIVERSITY OF
South Carolina

Radiation Safety Manual Radioactive Materials

EH&S RESEARCH & LABORATORY SAFETY

FOREWORD

This manual is a living document that is issued as a means of providing university employees, faculty and/or staff guidance on the use of all radioactive materials either naturally-occurring or licensed by the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (US NRC) and Agreement States. The State of South Carolina has entered into an Agreement with the US NRC to regulate and license radioactive material authorized for distribution to general and specific licensees within the State of South Carolina. The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC) is the jurisdictional authority for all radioactive materials authorized for distribution to general and specific licensees in the State of South Carolina.

Exceptions to DHEC's jurisdictional authority include radioactive materials authorized for distribution as license exempt material, special nuclear material exceeding 300 grams in mass, and use of radioactive material in territorial waters under the jurisdiction of the United States Government. In these cases; the US NRC maintains authority throughout the United States of America and its territories.

Radioactive material transportation and licensing is complex and varied. All radioactive material being purchased or brought to campus, including materials purchased from internet outlets such as eBay, Amazon, retail stores such as hardware stores (license exempt material such as smoke detectors), and naturally-occurring radioactive material from Earthen materials and/or the ocean brought to campus for modification and/or purification of the radioactive material, must be reviewed by radiation safety staff to ensure that appropriate licensure and procedures are in place. The only exception are devices containing license-exempt radioactive material clearly meant for personal use, such as but not limited to watches containing license-exempt tritium to illuminate the watch face.

Failure to follow the procedures in the above paragraph could subject the university to costly compliance issues and high radioactive waste disposal costs.

Refer to the [radioactive materials page](#) for further information on forms and procedures for utilizing radioactive materials on the USC Columbia campus.

Should you have any questions or need to request training to use radioactive material, please email radsafe@mailbox.sc.edu; or call the following individuals:

Bryan Bagg, Radiation Safety Officer: 803-777-7530

Jennifer Roose, Assistant Radiation Safety Officer – Radioactive Materials: 803-576-6818