

Autoclave Performance Verification Program

Have you ever wondered if your autoclave was working properly? We now have a program to verify optimal autoclave performance.

1. Download and read the [Autoclave SOP](#) from the Safety Office – Biological Safety website. Share this information with all autoclave users in your laboratory or research area.
2. Follow the instructions on how to validate the performance of your autoclave found on pages 3-4.

*You can obtain biological indicators (at no cost) and perform this test on your own. If you do the tests on your own, please keep a record of your autoclave performance.

*Or, the Safety Office will supply, incubate, and read the results of the indicators for you if you prefer.

If you would like the Safety Office to assist you with validating performance of your autoclave, please follow this protocol:

- a) Obtain a biological indicator from the Safety Office by calling 1-7759.
- b) Run the indicator in a typical waste load. Remove the indicator following the precautions included in the SOP (page 4). Place the indicator in the supplied Ziploc bag.
- c) Fill out the applicable portion of the Autoclave Testing Report form that arrived with your indicator. (Note: the [Autoclave Testing Report](#) form is also available on the Downloadable Forms website under the University Police and Safety Office section.)
- d) Place the bagged indicator and the filled out form in a campus mail envelope and send by campus mail to the University Police and Safety Office.
- e) The Safety Office will incubate the indicator for you, inform you of the results, and keep a record of your autoclave performance.
- f) Testing should be done at least monthly.