

## **CHAPTER VII: SHIPPING HAZARDOUS BIOLOGICAL MATERIALS**

Hazardous materials capable of posing an unreasonable risk to health, safety, and property, are common in University facilities. Amongst them are chemicals and solvents, cleaning agents, radionuclides, infectious agents, and toxins. When hazardous materials are transported in commerce, complex federal regulations for shipping hazardous materials must be followed. Seemingly minor technical violations can result in major fines while more serious violations can endanger the public.

The U.S. Department of Transportation requires all persons involved in shipping hazardous materials to be trained and certified in proper handling of these materials. Activities for which training is required include:

- Identify hazard material
- Preparing shipping papers in compliance with national/international regulations
- Marking and labeling packages
- Properly pack hazardous materials
- Supervising these activities

Required training for shipping of hazardous biological materials is offered by Environmental Health & Safety. Information for obtaining this training can be found here: <http://safety.uchicago.edu/tools/faqs/training.shtml>.