This Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S) Fact Sheet communicates important university policy and protocol regarding minors working in USC biology, chemistry, physics, and medical research laboratories.

**No persons under the age of 18** may enter a USC biology, chemistry, physics, or medical research laboratory unless they are participating

- As part of a group or individual educational program approved in advance by the Department or the Dean of the school or college where the program will take place and the Office of Environmental Health and Safety;

  **OR**

- As part of a relationship in which a USC faculty member or researcher is acting as a mentor to the young person, the young person will not be present in a USC laboratory for longer than the project takes each day, and the young person's activities in the laboratory have been approved by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.

All persons under the age of 18 who enter a USC laboratory must:

- Submit a completed parent consent form;
- Complete all required safety training;
- Adhere to all pertinent university policies and protocols;
- Be given instruction in case of injury (review of Workers' Compensation); and
- Be supervised at all times.

Furthermore,

- All Radiation work must be pre-approved by the Radiation Safety Officer;
- Projects must be reviewed by EH&S when in question; and
- Persons under the age of 18 may not work in Biosafety Level 2+ labs.

**USC faculty members sponsoring minors shall be responsible for ensuring the above as dictated by university policy and protocol.**

NOTE: Participants in the educational and mentoring programs described above may not be paid according to an hourly, weekly, or monthly rate, but they may receive a lump-sum stipend approved in advance by the sponsoring USC School or College. Persons under the age of 16 may not receive any type of payment in connection with their presence in a USC laboratory.

Please contact EH&S at (323) 442-2200 for more information.