

Preparing to Work in the BSC

Wear appropriate personal protective equipment. The lab coat should be buttoned over street clothes and gloves should be worn to provide hand protection. Additional PPE may be used depending upon the outcome of a risk assessment.

Check certification sticker to confirm that BSC has been certified within the past 12 months. Contact EHS if you encounter an expired sticker.

Operate cabinet blowers for at least 5 minutes prior to starting work.

Disinfect cabinet surface prior to starting work.

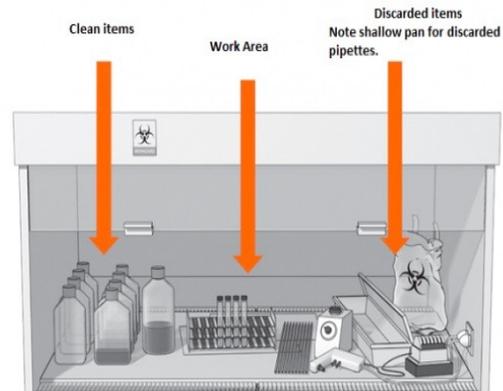
Set the sash at the correct height, which should be 8" to 10" depending on manufacturer's guidelines. Proper height will be marked by arrows on the side of the BSC.

Close the drain valve under the work surface prior to beginning work so that all contaminated materials are contained within the cabinet should a large spill occur.

Adjust the stool height before beginning work so that so that investigator's face is above the front opening.

FUN FACT

Open flames (i.e., Bunsen burners) are **rarely necessary** in the near microbe-free environment of a biological safety cabinet and are an artifact left over from usage of older model cabinets that only provided personal protection.



Work should flow from left (clean) to right (contaminated).

Set up your cabinet to reduce potential for contamination. All materials must be placed as far back in the cabinet as practical, toward the rear edge of the work surface and away from the front grille of the cabinet.

While Working in the BSC

Aspirator suction flasks must contain an appropriate disinfectant, and a High Efficiency Particulate Air (HEPA) in-line filter.

Work Positioning. All operations should be performed on the work surface at least four (4) inches from the inside edge of the front grille.

Direction of Work. Active work should flow from the clean to contaminated area across the work surface.

Clean Up

Wipe-down interior surfaces with the appropriate disinfectant.

Remove gloves and gowns in a manner to prevent contamination of unprotected skin and aerosol generation and wash hands.