

Physics Lab Safety

Physics

The specific hazards of a physics laboratory.

Hazard and control.

Hazard	Control
Mains electricity	Isolate before rewiring; use low voltage where possible
Laser	Never look into the beam; block the far end
Radioactive source	Handle with tongs; minimise time; maximise distance
Falling masses	Clear the floor; use a catch tray
Hot apparatus	Allow cooling; use heat-resistant mats
Stored charge	Discharge capacitors before handling

Educational reference. Follow your institution's own risk assessment and supervision requirements, which take precedence.