

University of Michigan Facilities & Operations Procedures for Accidental Employee Exposure to Asbestos

Revision: September 3, 2026

Accidental Impact of ACM:

- Should any ACM/PACM be accidentally disturbed by non-accredited employees, the following steps must be taken:
 - The work area where ACM or PACM was accidentally disturbed should be cordoned off by the employee to restrict access
 - UM Insulators or an AEC-approved, State of Michigan accredited asbestos abatement contractor should be called to clean up the debris
 - EHS should also be called at this time to collect a sample of the material and to coordinate air monitoring in the immediate area
 - Once the debris is removed, and the area is cleared via air sampling by an EHS contracted hygienist if deemed necessary, work may resume
 - Employees who come into contact with debris must either remove and bag clothing for disposal in the cordoned off area, or be given a Tyvek suit and shoe covers to wear before leaving the cordoned off area to go to a changing/shower location. If shower facilities are available, employees shall be given the opportunity to shower.
 - The clothing bag will then be placed into another bag, and labelled appropriately
 - If sampling of debris comes back positive for asbestos, then clothing will be taken to the Asbestos Dumpster at the North Campus Transfer Facility and disposed of as ACM
 - Employees will be reimbursed for clothing expenses by the department
 - If sampling of debris comes back negative for asbestos, then clothing will be returned to the employee
 - The employee's department is responsible for clothing reimbursement
 - The employee's supervisor should be contacted to supply replacement clothing.

REMINDER: Proactive Planning Approach:

- All employees who have the potential to come in contact with, or work near asbestos-containing materials (ACM) must take an asbestos awareness training course
- Planner, Supervisor, or Employee - walk job site and identify any materials that have been identified by an EHS Inspector as asbestos-containing
 - Any material not identified that could contain asbestos shall either be tested by a UM EHS State of Michigan accredited inspector, or presumed to be positive and treated as such
 - When filling out a pre-task hazard assessment form, ACM/PACM should be listed on the form
 - If ACM/PACM will be impacted by the project, or is in the immediate project area where it will likely be impacted, it should be removed prior to starting the project