

# 1 Laser Use

2 Effective: Moved to the Policy Library from the ISU *Laser Safety Manual*, October 27, 2008

3 Contact: [Environmental Health and Safety](#)

## 4 Introduction

5 The Iowa State University Laser Use policy is based on the American National Standards Institute  
6 (ANSI) Z136.1, Z136.5, and Z136.6 "Safe Use of Lasers" standards in compliance with state and  
7 federal regulations. The Laser Use policy ensures that laser radiation does not exceed maximum  
8 permissible exposure limits and provides protection from collateral hazards. The Laser Use policy  
9 applies to Class 3B and Class 4 lasers and laser systems. Laser applications may include but are  
10 not limited to research, telecommunications, construction site work, outdoor laser use, or indoor and  
11 outdoor entertainment.

## 12 Policy Statement

13 All personnel (faculty, staff, and students) who operate lasers or laser systems at Iowa State  
14 University shall follow the procedures detailed in the ISU *Laser Safety Manual*. Successful  
15 completion of laser safety training and authorization by the Laser Safety Officer (LSO) are required  
16 prior to operating any Class 3B and Class 4 lasers or laser systems, including personally owned  
17 lasers operated on university property. Laser safety retraining is required every three years. All class  
18 3B and Class 4 lasers shall be registered with Environmental Health and Safety. The LSO shall be  
19 notified of any newly installed Class 3B or Class 4 laser or laser system.

20  
21 University personnel shall adhere to the requirements of ISU's *Laser Safety Manual* and *Waste and  
22 Recycling Guidelines* for the disposal of unwanted lasers, laser components or laser systems. The  
23 LSO shall be notified when any Class 3B or Class 4 laser or laser system is relocated, transferred,  
24 or removed from service.

25  
26 University personnel operating lasers outside a laboratory shall meet additional operating  
27 requirements as specified in the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Standard for Safe  
28 Use of Lasers Outdoors (ANSI Z136.6, latest revision).

29  
30 All non Iowa State University personnel who operate a Class 3B or Class 4 laser or laser system on  
31 the Iowa State University campus shall operate in compliance with the ANSI Standard for Safe Use  
32 of Lasers (ANSI Z136.1, latest revision) and the ANSI Standard for Safe Use of Lasers Outdoors  
33 (ANSI Z136.6, latest revision). Environmental Health and Safety shall be notified prior to using any  
34 class 3B or Class 4 laser that is not registered with the department.

## 35 Resources

### 36 Links

- 37 • [American National Standards Institute \(ANSI\) Z136.1, Z136.5, and Z136.6](#)

- 38 • [Application for Use of Radiation-Producing Devices, Radioactive Materials](#)
- 39 • [Environment, Safety, Health and Assurance Office – Ames Laboratory](#)
- 40 • [Environmental Health and Safety, ISU](#)
- 41 • [ISU Surplus](#)
- 42 • [Laboratory Equipment Disposal Policy](#)
- 43 • [ISU Laser Safety Manual](#)
- 44 • [Laser Safety Program - Environmental Health and Safety](#)
- 45 • [ISU Waste and Recycling Guidelines](#)