



*Safe Techniques Advance Research Science*  
**Safe Science is Good Science.**

**S.T.A.R.S. has been developed by the NIH  
Office of Research Services (ORS)**

**Learn more about S.T.A.R.S. online at:  
[http://dohs.ors.od.nih.gov/student\\_labtraining.htm](http://dohs.ors.od.nih.gov/student_labtraining.htm)**

**S.T.A.R.S. is inspired by our future scientists and is  
in memory of Elizabeth R. Griffin. Learn more about  
Elizabeth at: [www.ergriffinresearch.org/](http://www.ergriffinresearch.org/)**

Dear Parents,

January 26, 2011

The S.T.A.R.S. program provides the best possible laboratory safety training for young scientists at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). The S.T.A.R.S program is designed specifically for young research scientists, ages 21 and younger, working in biomedical laboratories at the NIH. We want to teach your child that “Safe Science is Good Science.” To accomplish this, the S.T.A.R.S program is organized into two separate, but related components:

1. Computer-based training (*Required*)
2. “Learn-by-Doing” hands-on laboratory safety training (*Required*)



The computer-based safety training course “Introduction to Laboratory Safety” provides an excellent overview of basic laboratory safety and safe laboratory rules of conduct. Your child can complete the on-line training at any computer. The “learn-by doing” laboratory safety course combines elements of the traditional classroom with a hands-on learning environment. Students will work in small groups with an occupational health and safety instructor to practice and learn safe laboratory techniques. Your child will learn laboratory safety through engaging group discussions and problem solving learning activities.

We encourage you to ask your child about what they have learned from the S.T.A.R.S. Program at NIH.

- How can a laboratory accident be prevented?
- What do you need to wear in a laboratory?
- What are the common laboratory hazards?
- How can you prevent possible exposure?

If you have any questions regarding your child’s safety at the NIH, please contact us at (301) 496-2960.

Sincerely,

*The Safety Team at NIH*

### Special Note

*Parents of students under the age of 18, will receive a Safety Consent for Minors letter. Please read the information carefully, sign it and have your child return it to their Supervisor.*

#### Example:

Subject: Safety Consent for Minors

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Smith,

Jennifer will soon begin work at the National Institute laboratory in NIAID/Clinical Research Center/Room supervision of Dr. Jones.

Individual laboratories vary in the in

