



TECHNICAL BULLETIN

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ATTENTION HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS

Credentials required to Package and Ship Infectious Biological Materials



- It is the shipper's responsibility to minimize risk of shipping infectious biological materials (infectious and diagnostic) substances by ensuring they are properly identified, classified, packaged, labeled and documented. The shipper is responsible for the package until it reaches its designation.
- Anyone who packages and ships infectious biological materials must be properly trained and certified for compliance with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) and US DOT 49 CFR Parts 171-185 (DOT). The certification must be updated at least every two years.
- The Bureau of Clinical Laboratories (BCL) offers such training and the schedule is located at : <http://www.adph.org/bcl/Default.asp?id=4605>; Examples of online courses: <https://www.medialabinc.net/packaging-and-shipping-infectious-materials.aspx> and <http://www.iata.org/training/courses/Pages/infectious-substances-tcgp43.aspx>.
- The CDC has an online free training course, *Packaging and Shipping Division 6.2 Materials*, that will re-certify those who have had initial training. <http://www.cdc.gov/labtraining/course-listing/1043824.html>. **Note:** The CDC Course is not intended to substitute for first time training.
- The following sites provide guidance for preparing a package to ship.: <http://www.cdc.gov/laboratory/specimen-submission/shipping-packing.html>; Diagram for Packaging and Shipping Clinical Specimens such as Ebola: <http://www.cdc.gov/vhf/ebola/hcp/packaging-diagram.html>.

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