

# UC CENTERS OF EXCELLENCE

The UC Systemwide Centers of Excellence (“COE”) concept began in 2010 with the formation of the Center for Laboratory Safety at UCLA. COE recognizes unique pockets of expertise within University locations to share information, best practices, training and support.

While the EHS Leadership Council and its various working groups have developed many best practice documents over the years, the challenge for many campuses is finding expertise and/or resources to implement the programs. And, although campuses do share resources with each other, it is usually in response to an emergency event and for a very limited duration. The main challenge, even in emergency situations, is that the lending campus cannot afford to loan a person out for an extended duration for fear of their program suffering.

The CoE program is intended to address this issue by being proactive in providing resources in advance and requiring a CoE to provide assistance to other campuses and system-wide leadership on their specific subject area.

In general, CoE’s have the following characteristics or elements:

- Collection of subject matter experts on a given subject/topic
- Central repository for research and study materials
- Clearinghouse of process, standards and policy design
- Source of educational opportunities on the given subject/topic
- Development and monitoring of success criteria for metrics/systems of measurement

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