

# Graduate Student Field Safety “Bill of Rights”

## April 2024 (ESPM, UC Berkeley)

### Your rights

- You have the right to refuse work you feel is unsafe.
- Your work is regulated by Cal OSHA (<https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/WorkersPage.htm>) beyond any university regulations (e.g., you have a right to whistleblow and file a state complaint; you also have minimum rights to shade in hot outdoor workplaces).
- You can talk to your PI and try to resolve differences in perspective on the safety of the task you are asked to do. If you cannot resolve the issue, you can reach out to: Sara Souza (Program Director, University of California Field Research Safety, [sarasouza@berkeley.edu](mailto:sarasouza@berkeley.edu)) in EH&S.
- You may be eligible for workers compensation if injured.
- You can report an incident or injury to EH&S (<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/faculty-staff/disability-management/how-report-work-related-injury-or-illness>).

### Minimum reasonable expectations

- Make a safety plan and review it with your supervisor.
- Confirm the communication plan (emergency contacts and frequency/mode of check-ins).
- Your supervisor helps you understand your benefits and eligibility for workers compensation (<https://uhs.berkeley.edu/facstaff/disability-management/workerscomp/employee-info>) based on your appointment.