

LAUNDRY OPERATIONS

Whitman College operates one or more employee-operated facility defined at [WAC 296-303-01003](#) as a laundry. This procedure applies to those facilities only. It does not include laundry rooms or equipment provided for use by residents in interest houses, Greek houses, rental homes, or residence halls.

Employees who handle laundry contaminated with human blood and/or other potentially infectious materials must also comply with the College's [Bloodborne Pathogens Program](#). Employees who connect or disconnect laundry chemical systems, or handle laundry chemicals must comply with the College's [Hazard Communication Program](#) requirements.

Operational Requirements

- Each washing machine must be equipped with an interlocking device that will prevent the inside cylinder from moving under power when the outer door on the case or shell is open, and will also prevent the door from being opened while the inside cylinder is in motion. This device should not prevent the movement of the inner cylinder under the action of a hand-operated mechanism or under the operation of an "inching device."
- Each washing machine must be provided with means for holding open the doors or covers of inner and outer cylinders or shells while being loaded or unloaded. Spring loaded devices are an acceptable means.
- Each drying tumbler must be equipped with an interlocking device that will prevent the inside cylinder from moving under power when the outer door on the case or shell is open, and also prevent the door from being opened while the inside cylinder is in motion. This device should not prevent the movement of the inner cylinder under the action of a hand-operated mechanism or under the operation of an inching device.
- Each drying tumbler must be provided with means for holding open the doors or covers of inner and outer cylinders or shells while being loaded or unloaded.
- Each exhaust or ventilating fan within seven feet of the floor or working platform must be completely covered with wire mesh of not less than No. 16 gauge, and with openings that will reject a ball one-half inch in diameter.
- The floors of every room in a laundry that are used for washing purposes must be properly constructed of cement, tile, or similar material. The floors must be watertight, free from projections, crevices, or dangerous gradients. They must be maintained in good repair and drained so that no water may accumulate.
- Table tops, shelves, and machine woodwork. Table tops, shelves, and machine woodwork must be constructed of materials properly surfaced, finished free from splinters, and so maintained.
- No safeguard, safety appliance, or device attached to, or forming an integral part of any machinery may be removed or made ineffective except for the purpose of making immediate repairs or adjustments. Any such safeguard, safety appliance, or device removed or made ineffective during the repair or adjustment of such machinery must be replaced immediately upon the completion of such repairs or adjustments.
- No machine may be operated until such repairs and adjustments have been made and the machine is in good working condition.
- Moving parts of machines, such as gears, sprockets, belts, pulleys, and shafts, must be guarded in accordance with the requirements of chapter WAC [296-806](#)



- Each power-driven machine must be provided with means for disconnecting from the source of power. Starting and stopping devices for machines must be located so as to be operable from the front of the machine, and constructed to allow proper guarding of belts and pulleys.
- Doors of washing machines, extractors, and tumbler/shaker dryer machines, must have a cut-off micro switch or other method to shut off power when loading doors are opened, making inner cylinder, tumbler, or shaker mechanisms inoperative while the door is open. In those situations where the cylinder or mechanism continues to rotate/move, and present a hazard after the power is off, an interlocking device, breaking switch, or a time-delay switch is additionally required to prevent injury.