

Bioimaging Facility (BIF) Training Policy

All users must meet the following criteria before they are granted unsupervised status and allowed to work without technical assistance or after hours.

1. Training of users on BIF equipment will be done by BIF staff or BIF approved mentors. A BIF approved workshop may replace the initial day of training on the instrument. Training consists of one-on-one training (or up to a group of three from the same lab) with a BIF supplied or acceptable user-supplied sample to be imaged during the training session.
2. A training session is normally defined as three sessions of three-hour each on the electron microscope and two sessions of two-hour each on the optical microscope, but is ultimately up to the discretion of the BIF staff.
3. The user must demonstrate that their research project will require substantial microscope time (minimum 4 sessions per month where a session is at least 3 hour in duration) prior to commencement of training.
4. The user must complete a minimum of 2 supervised sessions on the microscope after the initial training session as well as demonstrating competent practical knowledge of the microscope.
5. If a user has not used BIF equipment for a period of 6 months or more, the user will have to undergo a “refresher” training session.
6. Training is considered a fee for service where the user will pay for both Technical Assistance and Microscope time.
7. The BIF staff will have the final approval on granting “unsupervised” status to users.
8. Training during the summer months (April to August) will be scheduled at the discretion of the Research Manager. This is highly dependent upon current projects, upcoming staff vacation and demand for training.