



User Expectations

Artisan & Fabrication Laboratories (AFL)

- 1) Utilize the AFL Website: you will be expected to utilize the AFL website to submit projects, track a project's status, schedule machine time, and complete required safety documentation. This website is available at the following link: <https://engineering.purdue.edu/afl>.
- 2) Read and Sign the Safety Contract: you will be expected to review, electronically sign, and adhere to a safety contract. Specific safety policies are explained in detail the contract, and cover topics such as required personal protective equipment (PPE), allowable materials, etc.
- 3) Do Your Own Work: you will be expected to complete most, if not all, of the work required to manufacture your parts. The AFL staff are available to train and assist you on the machines, but will **not** complete the work for you. The AFL is not intended to be a job shop.
- 4) AFL is a Learning Lab: you will be expected to understand that the mission of the AFL is to provide hands-on manufacturing learning experience to all of its users. Therefore, you should expect to learn new things while utilizing the AFL. Users that approach this as a learning experience typically achieve the best results. It is also understood that users will make mistakes, and that is understood and expected, and you will not be criticize for it. Instead, it will be used as a learning experience.
- 5) Design and Manufacturing is an Iterative Process: you will be expected to understand that design and manufacturing is iterative process, and it is highly encouraged that you consult with the AFL early in the design cycle. This will ensure that your design is manufacturable, and that the proper supplies are available. Please consult with the AFL before purchasing any material for manufacturing, as the AFL will help you choose the correct type, size, and amount of material to purchase. Many manufacturing processes require excess material for fixturing, so it is best to consult with the AFL before making any purchases.
- 6) Manufacturing Takes Time: you will be expected to allow an ample amount of time to fully manufacture your parts. Users often find that the manufacturing process takes longer than they expected. Projects that are not rushed always produce better final products.
- 7) You are the Project Manager: you will be expected to manage your own project, such as arranging for the delivery of materials, scheduling of machines, and meeting your due dates. The AFL is here to assist you, but will not manage your project for you.
- 8) Drawings/Models May be Required: you will be expected to provide electronic drawings and/or 3-D CAD models for complex parts. Typically, this includes anything to be manufactured on a mill, lathe, waterjet, laser cutter, and other machines if the part is complex. For simple parts, typically completed on a drill press, saw, and with hand tools, electronic drawings are likely not required unless the part is complex. Hand-drawn drawings or sketches are typically not acceptable for complex parts. Consult with the AFL on the need for drawings and/or 3-D CAD models for your project.