

2020 NIH Freezer Challenge

To receive certification and recognition at the Sustainability Management Team Meeting labs must meet all minimum requirements as outlined in NIH Manual Chapter 26101-16 and complete at least one Challenge Initiative.

Minimum Requirements

- 1. New ULT freezer purchases must be Energy Star Certified.**
- 2. All ULT freezers must be listed in the NIH Property Database.**
- 3. ULT freezers must have a [Preventative Maintenance](#) every six months.**

Challenge Initiatives

- 1. Conduct a complete freezer defrost**
- 2. Discard samples that are no longer needed**
- 3. Transfer long term samples to LN2 freezers**
- 4. Maintain an electronic sample inventory**
- 5. Barcode Samples**
- 6. Consolidate Samples**
- 7. Share freezer space with other researchers**
- 8. Retire unnecessary freezers**
- 9. Change the freezer temperature setting to -70**
- 10. Store samples at appropriate temperatures**
- 11. Try/Adopt room-temperature sample storage**