

CHANL TEM policy:

1. Users must be trained by CHANL staff, similar to any other CHANL instruments.
2. Prior to training, users are expected to read the user guide.
3. Users will undergo three training sessions for around 2 hours each. Each session will cover TEM, STEM and EDS. There will also be a fourth session to evaluate the user performance prior to acquiring day time independent access to the microscope.
4. Training strategy:
  - a) First training session: Users will be trained on their sample (one sample). Users are expected to discuss composition and state of the sample, data expectation and sample preparation technique with the CHANL staff prior to the training session. Loading and unloading is the most important part of any TEM. Breaking vacuum will result in microscope down time and affect the overall performance of the microscope. Users will undergo training for loading and unloading sample and other aspects to run the microscope with the help of the user guide. This will strictly be a training session. Please do not consider it as a data acquisition session.
  - b) Second training session: User will run a standard sample provided, in the presence of CHANL staff. User will be trained to load and unload samples multiple times and is expected to run the microscope and obtain analytically reasonable data.
  - c) Third training session: Users load and unload their sample in the presence of CHANL staff. User is expected to run the session acquiring data. CHANL staff will evaluate and advise on the quality of the data and the overall performance.
  - d) Fourth session: User will be handed a standard sample and is expected to independently load and unload samples. Since it would be a standard sample, user is expected to acquire TEM and STEM images with at least lattice resolution and an EDS map. Loss of vacuum while loading and unloading and unreasonable quality of data may lead to additional sessions with CHANL staff, prior to gaining day time independent access. CHANL reserves the right to grant or not to grant user independent access after this evaluation.
5. If required, additional evaluations should be scheduled with the CHANL staff as soon as possible to gain independent access to the microscope.
6. All the four sessions need to be completed within a span of two weeks. Failure to do so will affect your ability to gain independent access.
7. Additional five independent sessions with no issues will result in gaining after hour access to the microscope.
8. This policy is in place to minimize instrument issues and to obtain high quality data. In the event of any instrument issue, it should be reported to CHANL staff. At no point the user is authorized to troubleshoot or fix any issues.