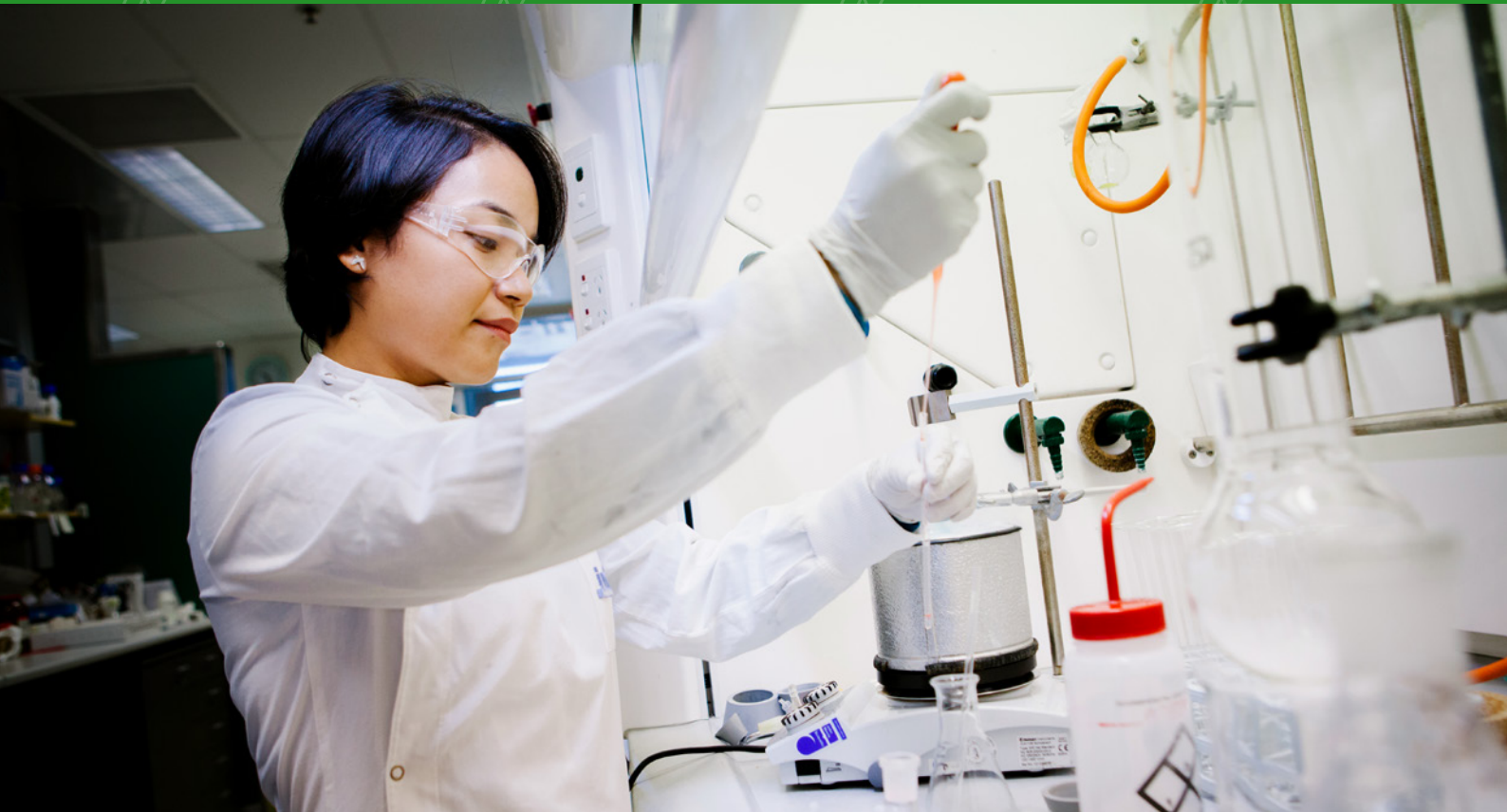


# Green Procurement

*Ask the following before purchasing lab supplies and equipment:*



**Is it needed?** If needed occasionally, can you use another lab's equipment?

**Is it the right size for the job?** Avoid buying larger equipment and ask if smaller equipment can suffice. For large loads, can you borrow equipment? Can you do loads in shifts?

**Is there an alternative?** When purchasing, compare different models, their resource use and waste generation. After the project, ask if other researchers need equipment.

**Is it the best chemical choice?** Minimise use of toxic chemicals by replacing them with greener alternatives. My Green Lab has developed a resource for choosing environmental substitutes [mygreenlab.org/greenchemistry.html](http://mygreenlab.org/greenchemistry.html).

**Does it have an off switch?** Ensure equipment cannot be left on standby and can be turned off at night and on weekends. Purchasing equipment that is waterless, recirculates water, or has an off switch for water minimises water use.

**Can it be reused?** For activities that do not require sterile conditions, reusable and washable labware can be used.

**What is the Energy Star rating?** Buying appliances with more stars in their rating will save money long term.

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