Precursor chemicals can be used to manufacture illegal narcotic drugs and psychoactive substances, and are tightly regulated by the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the State of California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General (CA-DOJ) - see DEA Lists I & II and the CA-DOJ precursor chemicals list.

**ORDERING OPTIONS**

There are three options to obtain precursor chemicals per the California Health and Safety Code, Section 11100-11107.1.

1. Purchase through Spectrum Chemical.
2. Apply for an Analytical Lab DEA Registration.
3. Obtain a Precursor Chemical Permit.

**OPTION 1: Order through Spectrum Chemical**

1. Complete Spectrum Chemical Form QAF481.
   - Fill in the following: Customer #: 30918; Order #: leave blank; Spectrum Representative: Alexis Lieberman.
     - All written signatures must be in ink.
     - Two forms of ID: Driver’s license and USC Federal Tax ID. NOTE: A California-issued ID card may be used in lieu of a CA driver’s license.
2. Create a “Letter of Intended Use” on departmental letterhead.
   - Briefly summarize intended use of precursor chemical.
   - Letter must be dated and signed with signature in ink.
3. Repeat Steps 1 and 2 for each chemical requested (e.g., separate paperwork for anthranilic acid and hydriodic acid) NOTE: These forms are valid for one year.
4. Scan/email a PDF copy of completed Spectrum Form QAF481 and Letter of Intended Use to ehs-cs@usc.edu.
5. Create and submit USC eMarket requisition.
   - Refer to the Controlled Substance Purchase Guide Sheet for more information.

**OPTION 2: Apply for a DEA Registration**

1. Refer to the DEA Registration & Renewal Fact Sheet for information on how to acquire a license.
   - On Form 225, select “Analytical Lab” as Business Activity.
2. Enroll in EH&S Controlled Substances Use Authorization Program.
3. Create and submit USC eMarket requisition.
   - Refer to the Controlled Substance Purchase Guide Sheet for more information.

**OPTION 3: Obtain a Precursor Chemical Permit**

1. Contact the California Controlled Substance group.
   - Call 916-227-4222 or email ccsp@doj.ca.gov to inquire about obtaining a precursor chemical permit.
2. Acquire a precursor chemical permit for each precursor chemical to be used.
3. Create and submit USC eMarket requisition.
   - Refer to the Controlled Substance Purchase Guide Sheet for more information.
   - Attach the precursor chemical permit to all eMarket orders.

For more information, contact Lab Safety at (323) 442-2200 or ehs-cs@usc.edu.

**REFERENCES**

- [California Health and Safety Code Regulation and Control, Article 1 Reporting 11100. Report of Controlled Substance Transaction](https://legis.ca.gov/)