

Instructions for shipping sample solutions

1. Start with the sample in relatively high concentration, 1-2 mg/ml if feasible. This is sample dependent.
 - For small complex, say 200 kDa, 0.2-0.5 mg/ml might be enough. But for large sample, say 3 MDa, 5 mg/ml might be needed. Samples with similar molecular weights may behave very differently on a cryo grid. There are samples which tend to stay on carbon film and do not get into holes. We will find the optimal concentration and conditions for making cryo grids for each sample here.
2. A couple of 20 microliter aliquots will be sufficient. Please also include 0.5-1ml dilution buffer.
 - Ideally there should be no glycerol or sugar in the buffer and salt concentration is not very high (under 500 mM). But in special cases (such as glycerol must be present to keep structural integrity during freeze/thaw cycle), it is OK to have up to 30% glycerol in the buffer. We will try to remove the glycerol if feasible here before making cryo grids. So please include more buffer for this purpose. For some samples, a low concentration of glycerol (say 2%) might be helpful to keep the sample stable or dispersed on a grid. We can leave such low concentration of glycerol in the buffer while making cryo grids.
3. The sample can be sent frozen on dry ice if applicable. This is preferred as it gives us flexibility on when to work on the sample. If we cannot work on the sample immediately upon receiving, we can store it in -80C freezer and work on it at the earliest time when both equipment and staff hours are available.

4. If the sample is not stable with freeze/thaw cycle and it is stable at 4C, it can be sent on ice pack or wet ice. In this case, please coordinate with us at cryoemfacility@janelia.hhmi.org. Generally, it is preferred to receive the sample on Tuesday or Wednesday.

Ship to:

CryoEM facility
HHMI Janelia Research Campus
19700 Helix Drive
Ashburn, VA 20147
phone: 571-209-4000 x 1106

Please fill in sample submission form!

<https://www.cognitoforms.com/HHMI5/HHMICryoEMSampleSubmission>