

Snapshots!

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Program**

<http://ehs.psu.edu/ppe/overview>

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**Who does this program apply to?**

* University employees who use “Personal Protective Equipment” or “PPE” as a means of controlling exposure to workplace hazards.
* PPE encompasses a wide variety of devices that form a barrier between the user and workplace hazards. Examples of PPE include safety glasses, gloves, respirators, hearing protection, foot protection, etc.

**What are the key requirements of this program?**

• It is the goal of PSU to use engineering and administrative controls as the primary methods for addressing occupational hazards. PPE must be used when engineering and administrative controls are either not possible or infeasible. PPE can also be used to complement these other controls if they do not completely eliminate the hazard.

• The PPE program is based upon the completion of “hazard assessments”. A hazard assessment is the process of identifying the hazards associated with a given task and then prescribing the PPE which must be worn to reduce the risk.

• Supervisors must:

* Conduct PPE hazard assessments within their areas of authority.
* Ensure employees receive PPE training.
* Provide employees with appropriate PPE.
* Ensure employees comply with all provisions of the PPE program.

• Employees must:

* Comply with all provisions of the PPE program including participation in training and the use of appropriate PPE.

• Training Requirements:

* EHS is responsible for training supervisors who have employees required to wear PPE on the following:

􀂃 Completion of PPE hazard assessments.

􀂃 How to train their employees on PPE.

* Supervisors are responsible for ensuring training is provided to their employees who are required to use PPE. Employees will be trained to know the following:

􀂃 When PPE is necessary,

􀂃 What PPE is necessary,

􀂃 How to properly don, doff, adjust and wear PPE,

􀂃 Limitations of PPE,

􀂃 Proper care, maintenance, useful life, and disposal of PPE.

* Recordkeeping Requirements:
* Each work unit shall maintain records of all PPE hazard assessments and employee training.

**For additional information:**

**•** Penn State Personal Protective Equipment Program

<http://ehs.psu.edu/ppe/overview>

• OSHA Personal Protective Equipment Regulations: 29 CFR 1910.132 - 1910.138

<http://www.osha.gov/pls/oshaweb/owadisp.show_document?p_table=STANDARDS&p_id=9777>