



# Personal Protective Equipment

Environmental Health and Safety

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## V. PPE Hazard Assessment Certification

- A. In addition to appropriate clothing for specific tasks, PPE may be necessary as well. When selecting PPE to wear, ensure it is appropriate for all potential hazards. A PPE Hazard Assessment is an evaluation of the workplace to help determine potential hazards employees could be exposed to and what PPE is needed for protection. If a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) has been completed or is planned and it will cover PPE requirements, the JHA can serve as the PPE Hazard Assessment.
- B. Supervisors, in consultation with EHS, must complete the PPE Hazard Assessment (see Appendix 1). This assessment must be verified through written certification that identifies:
  - i. The workplace/area evaluated,
  - ii. The person certifying the evaluation has been performed,
  - iii. The date of the hazard assessment, and
  - iv. The documented hazard assessment.
- C. Anytime new PPE is introduced, including from a new manufacturer or a different model; there has been an accident; or a supervisor or employee requests, the PPE Hazard Assessment must be reviewed and updated.

## VI. Selection of PPE

- A. Selection of PPE should be made in consultation with EHS after a PPE Hazard Assessment has been completed.
- B. PPE must provide protection against the hazards for which they are selected; Departments and Supervisors should consider the following when selecting PPE:
  - i. Chemical hazards,
  - ii. Physical hazards,
  - iii. Task requirements,
  - iv. Potential for PPE failure,
  - v. Maintenance requirements,
  - vi. Interferences,
  - vii. PPE durability,
  - viii. PPE availability (i.e., what is already in-stock and what can be procured),
  - ix. Regulatory requirements/certification (i.e., NIOSH, ANSI), and
  - x. User's size and physical abilities for fit, comfort, and individual needs.

## VII. Procurement of PPE

- A. Departments are responsible for purchasing PPE for their employees, visitors, and volunteers.
- B. Standard PPE (e.g., regular safety glasses, gloves, earplugs) will be provided at no cost, including replacement PPE resulting from regular use.
- C. There are multiple options for obtaining pre-approved PPE (i.e., vending machines, iBuyNU Marketplace); if PPE other than what is identified in the Hazard Assessments and pre-approved is needed, contact EHS to discuss the options.
- D. Programs for personal/specialty PPE (i.e., prescription safety glasses, safety footwear) are available for some departments; talk to your Supervisor for details.

- E. Departments are not required to purchase everyday clothing, skin creams, or items used solely for protection from weather (i.e., long-sleeve shirts, pants, street shoes, winter apparel, rain gear, sunscreen).
- F. PPE that is provided by employees must meet the requirements of this program,

## XI. Regulatory Authority and Related Information

Northwestern will comply with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) standards and any other applicable codes and standards, including:

[OSHA 29 CFR 1910 Subpart I – Personal Protective Equipment](#)

[OSHA Publication 3151-12R – Personal Protective Equipment](#)

[OSHA Fact Sheet 3603 – Personal Protective Equipment](#)

[Northwestern's Hearing Conservation Program](#)

[Northwestern's Respiratory Protection Program](#)

## XII. Contact

For questions, contact Environmental Health and Safety at



#### Step 4: Select PPE

After considering and/or planning for other controls, select which PPE provides at least the minimum level of protection required to protect employees from the hazards. Using the form, note the appropriate PPE in the required PPE box. For help with proper PPE selection, contact EHS at [ehs@northwestern.edu](mailto:ehs@northwestern.edu).





## PPE Hazard Assessment

Date:

Location:

During this assessment, the following activity was observed and/or discussed:



## PPE Hazard Assessment

Below, list any specific hazards and the corresponding required PPE, if any

Hands

Check all that apply:



# PPE Hazard Assessment