

# Personal Protective Equipment

## Reference Guide

**There are many responsibilities around the safe use of personal protective equipment (PPE).**

### **Managers are Responsible for:**

- Performing Hazard and PPE Assessments for work tasks and determining hazard controls.
- Selecting and providing PPE appropriate for each work task to protect against the recognized hazards.
- Ensuring that employees are trained to use and maintain the PPE they are assigned.
- Ensuring that PPE is inspected according to the manufacturers' recommendations and best practices.

### **Employees are responsible for:**

- Following all safety procedures for their work tasks.
- Following procedures for the safe use, storage, and maintenance of all PPE provided for their work.
- Performing inspections of their PPE before using it.
- Reporting any concerns or damaged equipment to their manager.

### **Department-specific PPE training must include:**

- What tasks require PPE
- Which PPE is necessary for each task
- How to properly don, doff and wear PPE, including employee demonstrations
- Limitations of PPE
- Proper care, maintenance, use, and disposal of PPE

### **Refresher training is required if:**

- There are changes to a PPE Assessment
- There are changes to a work practice
- An employee displays a lack of understanding regarding PPE requirements.

*PCC will pay for PPE that is necessary to protect employees on the job unless the gear is personal in nature and can be worn away from work. Employees may have to pay for replacement PPE if it is lost or intentionally damaged. Payment for upgrades to PPE may be the employee responsibility and will be assessed on an individual basis.*

# Types of PPE (part 1)

## Hand Protection

Used to protect against mechanical injury due to friction, heat, electricity, shearing/cutting actions and against specific chemicals.



Nitrile



Butyl rubber



Leather



Cloth



Kevlar

## Foot & Leg Protection

Used when there is a risk of injury to the foot due to objects, falling, rolling, penetrating the sole, or exposure to electrical hazards.



Chemical Resistant



Safety toe footwear



Metatarsal guards



Non-slip device



Chaps/leg protectors

## Eye & Face Protection

Used when there is a reasonable probability of injury due to flying objects, glare, harmful liquids, or injurious light such as UV or LASER.



Goggles



Safety glasses



Full-face shield



Laser eyewear



Welding helmet

*Goggles: Select whenever a job involves chemicals or when work above eye level involves the generation of particles.*

*Safety glasses: Select whenever work at eye level or below involves generation of particles.*

# Types of PPE (part 2)

## Body Protection

Use to protect against heat, abrasions, or chemical hazards.



Apron



Tyvek suit



Chemical protective suit

## Head Protection

Use to protect against flying objects, impacts, and electrical shock.



Hard hats & Safety Helmets: Use against overhead hazards, low ceilings, protruding objects, or in confined spaces.



Bump caps: Use against minor bumps and lacerations

## Hearing Protection

Use against hazardous noise levels when exposures cannot be controlled by engineering and/or administrative practices. Noise exposures above regulatory levels will result in annual training and audiometric examinations. See H&SM Chapter 11 for more information.



Ear muffs



Ear plugs



Ear caps

*Select based on noise reduction rating, comfort, and other equipment worn.*

# Types of PPE (part 3)

## Respiratory Protection

Used to protect against dusts, mists, fumes, fibers, gasses, or vapors. Periodic medical evaluations, annual training, and annual fit testing are required for users when airborne levels of contaminants exceed regulatory levels. OSHA has provisions for voluntary use of respiratory protection. See H&SM Chapter 17 for more information.



Dust mask



Half-face respirator



Full-face respirator

## Fall Protection

Used when there is a danger of falling from elevations above threshold heights. Fall protection components form a system and must be used together. Evaluation by EH&S is required prior to selection and application. Specialized training is required.



Body harness



Anchor point



Fall protection lanyard

## Questions about PPE?

- Contact your supervisor
- Review department *Personal Protective Equipment Hazard Assessment*
- Review PCC Health & Safety Manual Chapter 12 - *Personal Protective Equipment*
- Review PCC Health & Safety Manual Chapter 1 – *General Safety Program & Responsibilities*
- Reach out to Environmental Health & Safety via the SRC or [ehs@pcc.edu](mailto:ehs@pcc.edu).