

August Safety Awareness:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Personal protective equipment (PPE) refers to protective clothing, helmets, gloves, face shields, goggles, facemasks and/or respirators or other equipment designed to protect the wearer from injury or the spread of infection or illness.

As an employer, you are required by Washington State's occupational safety and health rules to provide a safe and healthful work place for your employees. The Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Rule [WAC 296-800-160](#) requires the following:

1. Do a Hazard Assessment for PPE and document it
 - Assessment should be updated every year, especially if there are changes in the workplace
2. Select and provide appropriate PPE to your employees
 - Provide PPE that is durable, fits snugly to assure maximum protection & doesn't interfere with employee's movement
3. Provide training to your employees and document it
 - Retraining employees is needed when there is a lack of understanding, change in work place and changes in type of PPE
4. Make sure your employees use their PPE properly
 - Supervisors should periodically monitor, supervise, reinforce and enforce correct use of PPE
5. Make sure PPE is in safe and good condition
 - Inspect PPE before use and discard any defective PPE

You can protect your employees and prevent work place injuries, which in result, reduces overall costs.



**Washington
Hospital Services**

999-3rd Avenue, Suite 1400 Seattle, WA 98104
Connie Pray, Compliance Manager
206-216-2540

Assess hazards in
workplace

Select & provide
PPE

Provide training

Proper use of PPE

PPE is in good
condition

