



Eye Protection

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I. Purpose and Scope

- A. The University of Texas - Dallas (UTD) is committed to reducing hazards and providing a healthful and safe workplace. This includes preventing injuries to all who work for, or visit, UTD. Safety glasses are required to be worn at all times in a lab when any chemical work is taking place. The only exception to this rule occurs when employees or students are looking through microscopes.
- B. Protective eye equipment shall be required when there is a reasonable probability of injury that can be prevented by such equipment in accordance with 29 CFR 1910.133, 29 CFR 1926.102 and ANSI Z87.1-2010.
- C. Substance specific standards promulgated by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) may automatically require protective eyewear.

II. Introduction

- A. Persons covered in this policy include faculty, staff, visitors, and students or other persons that may work in, study in, or inhabit UTD facilities or property.
- B. Suitable eye protectors shall be provided where machines or operations present the hazard of flying objects, glare, chemicals, injurious radiation, or any combination of these hazards.
- C. Unless specifically excluded in writing by Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S), shops, laboratories and other such locations are areas of reasonable probability of eye injury if protective equipment is not worn, therefore, such equipment shall be issued and worn.
- D. The respective supervisor, manager, etc. of the aforementioned areas shall make sure the protective equipment is appropriate, in good condition and worn at all times when work is in progress.
- E. Costs:
 - 1. The department for which eye protection is needed is responsible for supplying employees covered by this policy basic eye protection at no cost to the employee.
 - 2. Basic eye protection may be simple goggles or safety glasses. Prescription eyewear may be provided at the department's discretion.

If the wearer desires other types because of preference, fashion, or other, the respective department may elect to allow the cost difference to be made up by the wearer.

F. Students:

1. Students at UTD, whether employed by the university or not, shall abide by the requirements set forth in this policy.
2. Costs for eye protection may be borne by the students.
3. The respective academic department shall make sure the selected equipment is adequate and is worn at all times when hazards to the eye exist.

III. Equipment

A. The division, department, unit, etc. shall make conveniently available a type of protector suitable for the work to be performed, and required persons shall use such protectors.

B. Protectors shall meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Protectors shall provide adequate protection against the particular hazards for which they are designed.
2. Protectors shall be reasonably comfortable when worn under the designated conditions.
3. Protectors shall fit snugly and shall not unduly interfere with the movements of the wearer.
4. Protectors shall be durable.
5. Protectors shall be capable of being disinfected.
6. Protectors shall be easily cleanable.
7. Protectors should be kept clean and in good repair.

C. Persons whose vision requires the use of corrective lenses in spectacles, and who are required by this policy to wear eye protection, shall wear safety goggles or spectacles of one of the following types.

1. Spectacles: whose protective lenses provide optical correction.
2. Goggles: that can be worn over corrective spectacles without disturbing the adjustment of the spectacles.
3. Goggles: that incorporate corrective lenses mounted behind the protective lenses.

- D. Every protector shall be distinctly marked to facilitate identification of the manufacturer.
- E. When the manufacturer indicates limitations or precautions, they shall be transmitted to the user and care taken to see that such limitations and precautions are strictly observed.
- F. Design, construction, testing, and use of devices for eye protection shall be in accordance with American National Standard for Occupational and Educational Eye and Face Protection, ANSI/ASSE Z87.1-2010.
- G. Contact lenses may become contaminated with chemicals or other foreign material thus promoting injury to the eye, therefore, it is recommended that contacts not be worn in areas where protective eyewear is required.