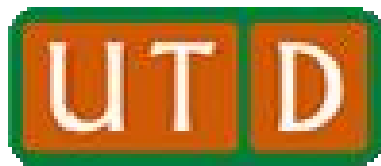


# The University of Texas at Dallas Personal Protective Equipment Safety Manual



# PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

## I. PURPOSE

Certain activities may be accompanied by hazards which are difficult to eliminate completely. The first line of defense against such hazards is to eliminate them by engineering controls. When a hazard continues to exist after all practical engineering control measures have been applied, it is essential that further protection be given to the employee and/or student. Personal protective equipment should be prescribed and worn to provide additional protection. This section describes the personal protective equipment available and to be used as necessary.

## II. PROCEDURES

- A. Personal protective equipment is required for any operation where exposure to injury or illness can be prevented by the proper use of such equipment.
- B. All personal protective equipment must be of an approved type.
- C. Items of personal safety equipment shall be maintained in serviceable condition. Equipment shall be properly cleaned, inspected, and repaired as needed, before being used by an employee or student.
- D. All employees and students exposed to a work environment tending to injure or irritate the eyes shall be required to wear either safety glasses, close-fitting chemical goggles, and/or an effective face mask or shield. A person requiring optical correction shall use prescription safety glasses or goggles designed to fit over regular glasses.
- E. Approved respiratory equipment shall be available and worn whenever toxic gases, fumes or vapors may be present. Employees or students whose facial contours, physical impairments (such as a ruptured ear drum), or hair styles that prevent the proper seal necessary for respiratory protective devices shall not be permitted in areas where such protective devices are required. (See Respiratory Safety Manual.)
- F. Headgear is required in all areas in which a falling material or a head bumping hazard exists. Long hair which might be caught in machinery or equipment must be confined.
- G. Foot and hand protection should be selected and used in all work environments which pose a foot or hand hazard.
- H. When employees and students are subjected to sound levels exceeding those listed in Table 1, administrative and engineering controls will be used. If such controls fail to reduce the sound levels to the levels of Table 1, personal protective equipment must be provided and used to reduce sound levels to the levels of the table. (See Hearing Protection Manual.)

TABLE 1

PERMISSIBLE NOISE EXPOSURES

Duration per day, hours	Sound Level DBA Slow Response
8-----	90
6-----	92
4-----	95
3-----	97
2-----	100
1-1/2-----	102
1-----	105
1/2-----	110
1/4 or less-----	115

Exposure to impulsive or impact noise should not exceed 140 dB peak sound pressure level.

- I. When work is performed over a body of water, an approved personal flotation device shall be worn.
- J. When an employee (such as a flagman) is exposed to traffic hazards, a high visibility vest shall be worn.
- K. When work is performed above grade in an area unprotected by suitable guard rails or nets, appropriate safety belts shall be provided and used with lifelines. This equipment should be inspected at regular intervals and stored in a manner designed to preserve the safety integrity of the equipment.
- L. Rubber protective equipment shall be used by persons subjected to electrical hazards. (See Electrical Safety Manual.)