



Personal Protective Equipment **AKA P.P.E.**

Personal protective equipment, or PPE, is designed to protect workers from serious workplace injuries or illnesses resulting from contact with chemical, radiological, physical, electrical,

mechanical, or other workplace hazards. Besides face shields, safety glasses, hard hats, and safety shoes, protective equipment includes a variety of devices and garments such as goggles, coveralls, gloves, vests, earplugs, and respirators.

Employer Responsibilities

Cal-OSHA's primary personal protective equipment standards are in Title 8 CCR 3380. Cal-OSHA's general personal protective equipment requirements mandate that employers conduct a hazard assessment of their workplaces to determine what hazards are present that require the use of protective equipment, provide workers with appropriate protective equipment, and require them to use and maintain it in sanitary and reliable condition.

Using personal protective equipment is often essential, but it is generally the last line of defense after engineering controls, work practices, and administrative controls. Engineering controls involve physically changing a machine or work environment. Administrative controls involve changing how or when workers do their jobs, such as scheduling work and rotating workers to reduce exposures. Work practices involve training workers how to perform tasks in ways that reduce their exposure to workplace hazards.

You must also train workers who are required to wear personal protective equipment on how to do the following:

- Use protective equipment properly
- Be aware of when personal protective equipment is necessary
- Know what kind of protective equipment is necessary
- Understand the limitations of personal protective equipment in protecting workers from injury
- Put on, adjust, wear, and take off personal protective equipment
- Maintain protective equipment properly.

Protection from Head Injuries

Hard hats can protect your workers from head impact, penetration injuries, and electrical injuries such as those caused by falling or flying objects, fixed objects, or contact with electrical conductors. Also, OSHA regulations require employers to ensure that workers cover and protect long hair to prevent it from getting caught in machine parts such as belts and chains.

Protection from Foot and Leg Injuries

In addition to foot guards and safety shoes, leggings (e.g., leather, aluminized rayon, or other appropriate material) can help prevent injuries by protecting workers from hazards such as falling or rolling objects, sharp objects, wet and slippery surfaces, molten metals, hot surfaces, and electrical hazards.

Protection from Eye and Face Injuries

Besides spectacles and goggles, personal protective equipment such as special helmets or shields, spectacles with side shields, and face shields can protect workers from the hazards of flying fragments, large chips, hot sparks, optical radiation, splashes from molten metals, as well as objects, particles, sand, dirt, mists, dusts, and glare.

Protection from Hearing Loss

Wearing earplugs or earmuffs can help prevent damage to hearing. Exposure to high noise levels can cause irreversible hearing loss or impairment as well as physical and psychological stress. Earplugs made from foam, waxed cotton, or fiberglass wool are self-forming and usually fit well. A professional should fit your workers individually for molded or preformed earplugs. Clean earplugs regularly, and replace those you cannot clean.



Protection from Hand Injuries

Workers exposed to harmful substances through skin absorption, severe cuts or lacerations, severe abrasions, chemical burns, thermal burns, and harmful temperature extremes will benefit from hand protection.

Protection from Body Injury

In some cases workers must shield most or all of their bodies against hazards in the work-place, such as exposure to heat and radiation as well as hot metals, scalding liquids, body fluids, hazardous materials or waste, and other hazards. In addition to fire-retardant wool and fire-retardant cotton, materials used in whole-body personal protective equipment include rubber, leather, synthetics, and plastic.



When to Wear Respiratory Protection

When engineering controls are not feasible, workers must use appropriate respirators to protect against adverse health effects caused by breathing air contaminated with harmful dusts, fogs, fumes, mists, gases, smokes, sprays, or vapors. Respirators generally cover the nose and mouth or the entire face or head and help prevent illness and injury. A proper fit is essential, however, for respirators to be effective. Required respirators must be NIOSH-approved and medical evaluation and training must be provided before use.



Web-Training



Complete your mandatory training from the comfort of your own desk..



Drivers Training Online

Class				This class completes the mandatory training requirement for all County employees, interns, and volunteers by job classification or job assignment, who are or may be required to drive a County or private vehicle on County business.
7/22	Tue	9:30 am	11:00 am	
8/12	Tue	9:30 am	11:00 am	

- What to do in an Accident
- How to report an accident
- Vehicle Laws Distractions
- 5 points of Defensive Driving
- Stopping Distance
- Reaction Time etc...



Employee Workplace Violence (EWPV)

August				This class completes the mandatory training requirement for all County employees, interns, and volunteers by job classification or job assignment, who are or may be required to drive a County or private vehicle on County business.
26	Tue	9:30 am	11:00 am	

- Plan
- Run/Hide/Fight
- What to look for
- Statistics
- Types of Violence
- Facility Barriers



Safety Division Web-Site

Serious Injury

The screenshot shows the website header with the Riverside County logo and navigation links: Home, Mission, Accidents, Training, Newsletter, Safety Center. The main content area is titled 'Serious Injury' and features three images: a person in a hospital bed, a person in a medical setting, and a person in a laboratory. Below the images is the heading 'Cal-OSHA's Definition of a "Serious Injury" :'. The text defines 'Serious injury or illness' as any injury or illness occurring in a place of employment or in connection with any employment which requires inpatient hospitalization for a period in excess of 24 hours for other than medical observation or in which an employee suffers a loss of any member of the body or suffers any serious degree of permanent disfigurement, but does not include any injury or illness or death caused by the commission of a Penal Code violation, except the violation of Section 385 of the Penal Code, or an accident on a public street or highway.

Below the definition is a section titled 'What do I do?' which includes a list of bullet points:

- What to do
- Who to call
- When to call
- What if

At the bottom of the page, there is a section titled 'IMMEDIATELY CALL BOTH' which provides contact information for the Workers' Compensation Division (951-955-3530) and the Safety Division Office (951-955-5864). It also includes a section for 'Forms' with links to 'Injury Checklist' and 'Supervisor Report of Injury'.

Cal-OSHA's Definition of a "Serious Injury" :

"Serious injury or illness" means any injury or illness occurring in a place of employment or in connection with any employment which requires inpatient hospitalization for a period in excess of 24 hours for other than medical observation or in which an employee suffers a loss of any member of the body or suffers any serious degree of permanent disfigurement, but does not include any injury or illness or death caused by the commission of a Penal Code violation, except the violation of Section 385 of the Penal Code, or an accident on a public street or highway.

<http://safety.rc-hr.com/safety/SafetyCenter/Emergencies/SeriousInjuries.aspx>