

# Lesson Review: Personal Protective Equipment

The cooperation of both employers and employees is essential in establishing and maintaining a safe and healthful work environment.

In general, employers are responsible for:

- Performing a hazard assessment of the workplace to identify and control physical and health hazards
- Identifying and providing appropriate PPE for employees
- Maintaining PPE, including replacing worn or damaged PPE
- Periodically reviewing, updating and evaluating the effectiveness of the PPE program
- Documentation of the hazard assessment is required through a written certification.

Note the following key points in this lesson:

- Careful consideration must be taken when selecting the most suitable eye and face protection to ensure safety and protection.
- The employer must identify, evaluate and document the respiratory hazards in the workplace and provide effective annual training to employees who use respirators.
- Hard hats are divided into three industrial classes: Class A - impact and penetration resistance, Class B - highest level of protection against electrical hazards and Class C - impact protection.
- Excessive and loud noise exposure can cause hearing damage. OSHA requires employers to provide earplugs or earmuffs for protection from hazardous exposure.
- Employees can encounter hazardous conditions that require protective foot or legwear including exposure to hot, corrosive or poisonous substances, electrical hazards and falling or rolling objects.



Employers are required to ensure that their employees wear personal protective equipment for the parts of the body exposed to possible injury.