



## PPE responsibilities—supervisors

PPE is equipment or clothing such as hard hats, safety boots, coveralls, gloves, safety eyeglasses, earplugs, high visibility vests, lifejackets, fall protection, and respirators worn by workers to protect them from hazards in the workplace.

### Who provides and pays for PPE?

Unless otherwise agreed upon with your employer, workers must provide their own:

- Clothing needed for protection against the natural elements
- Safety headgear
- Safety footwear
- General-purpose gloves. However, if a product or a work activity requires specific gloves to protect the worker, your employer must provide these gloves.

Your employer must provide and pay for all other PPE required for the job. If a worker has an allergic reaction or other adverse health reaction to PPE, your employer is responsible for providing an appropriate and equally protective substitute (for example, replacing latex with synthetic gloves).

### What are your PPE responsibilities as a supervisor?

- Model good work practices by consistently and properly wearing the right clothing and PPE for the job.
- Participate in educating and training workers about the hazards in the workplace, how PPE protects the worker, how to wear it correctly, when it must be worn, and how to clean, maintain, store, and dispose of it properly.
- Check that PPE is available and that workers know where and how to obtain it.
- Regularly monitor that workers wear their PPE properly when required.
- Ensure that PPE is cleaned, inspected, maintained, stored, and disposed of properly.
- Act to remedy situations when workers are not wearing PPE or are wearing it incorrectly, or when workers report PPE requiring repair or replacement.
- Refer any issues regarding PPE to your employer, Occupational Health and Safety (OHS) committee or worker representative, and stay involved to make sure issues are resolved.

### Who else has PPE responsibilities?

Everyone has PPE responsibilities:

- Workers are required to wear PPE, and it is part of your job to ensure that they do so.
- Your OHS committee or worker representative participates in addressing issues relating to PPE.
- Your employer has a responsibility to ensure a safe and healthy workplace to protect all workers, including providing and maintaining PPE.

**Make it a habit to wear your PPE, and ensure the workers you supervise wear theirs.**

For more information go to [WorkSafeBC.com](http://WorkSafeBC.com), *Workers' Compensation Act* and OHS Regulation.