

Standing between you and danger.

# Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE), that is to be used exclusively at the place of employment must be provided, at no cost to the employee, and must be worn, by employees, as assigned and as outlined below.

Keep in mind, these are minimum standards. Employers may also require PPE to be used whenever they deem necessary, even if their requirements exceed the minimum standards.



## FOOT PROTECTION

Foot protection must be worn as required to protect feet from injury or diseases due to physical or chemical agents. Foot protection not worn exclusively while on the job is usually provided by the employee. In general, at a minimum, most workplaces should require enclosed footwear (shoes) for proper protection. Rarely, are thongs, flip-flops and sandals acceptable except perhaps in a low risk office type working environment.



## HEARING PROTECTION

Appropriate hearing protection must be worn as directed, when noise levels exceed regulatory limits or in an area where hearing protection signs are posted. Hearing protection may be required when exposures do not exceed occupational limits but the supervisor deems that such protection will enhance the safety performance or productivity of the operation.



## EYE & FACE PROTECTION

Appropriate eye & face protection must be worn when welding, cutting, grinding, chipping, steam cleaning, or performing any task where hazards from flying particulates or chemical exposure are present.



## HAND PROTECTION

Appropriate hand protection must be worn whenever hazards are present from extreme temperatures, chemicals, or in physical agents that may cause injury or occupational disease. Wear the appropriate glove for the hazard present.



## RESPIRATORY

Respiratory protection must be worn, as assigned, for any task involving hazardous airborne chemicals or other airborne hazardous agents. Employees wearing respirators, of any type, must have formal fit testing and medical evaluations before wearing a respirator.



## HEAD PROTECTION

Appropriate head protection is required to be worn whenever hazards exist from overhead obstructions, flying objects, moving equipment or other potentially hazardous agents. In general, on most construction sites and other industrial sites, hard hats are required to be worn at all times on the job sites.

Need more information? Contact Montana State Fund's safety team at **800-332-6102** or visit **safemt.com**.