

NEW SECTION

WAC 296-155-249 Voluntary use of personal protective equipment (PPE). (1) Every employer that does not require employees or contractors to wear a specific type of personal protective equipment as determined under the PPE hazard assessment, employer policy, or where otherwise required to comply with safety and health standard rules, must allow its employee's or contractor's voluntary use of PPE (PPE is an item or items used to protect the eyes, face, head, body, arms, hands, legs, and feet such as goggles, helmets, head covers, gloves, rubber slickers, disposable coveralls, safety shoes, protective shields, and barriers). This only applies when:

(a) The voluntary use of personal protective devices and equipment does not introduce hazards to the work environment and is consistent with applicable rules established by the department;

(b) The voluntary use of personal protective devices and equipment does not interfere with an employer's security requirements; and

(c) The voluntary use of these personal protective devices and equipment does not conflict with standards for that specific type of equipment established by the department of health or DOSH.

(2) WAC 296-842-11005 does not apply to the voluntary use of filtering-facepiece respirators, as defined under WAC 296-842-10200, under this section. Voluntary use of respirators not considered filtering-facepieces, such as elastomeric respirators, must comply with WAC 296-842-11005 and 296-842-11010.

(3) An employer may verify that voluntary use of personal protective equipment meets all regulatory requirements for workplace health and safety.

(4) Employers do not have to purchase, store, maintain, or otherwise provide protective devices or equipment for voluntary use by employees under this section.

(5) RCW 49.17.485 precludes DOSH from issuing variances under RCW 49.17.080 related to voluntary personal protective devices and equipment during a public health emergency as defined in RCW 49.17.485.

NEW SECTION

WAC 296-307-10030 Voluntary use of personal protective equipment (PPE). (1) Every employer that does not require employees or contractors to wear a specific type of personal protective equipment as determined under the PPE hazard assessment, employer policy, or where otherwise required to comply with safety and health standards rules, must allow its employee's or contractor's voluntary use of PPE (PPE is an item or items used to protect the eyes, face, head, body, arms, hands, legs, and feet such as goggles, helmets, head covers, gloves, rubber slickers, disposable coveralls, safety shoes, protective shields, and barriers). This only applies when:

(a) The voluntary use of personal protective devices and equipment does not introduce hazards to the work environment and is consistent with applicable rules established by the department;

(b) The voluntary use of personal protective devices and equipment does not interfere with an employer's security requirements; and

(c) The voluntary use of these personal protective devices and equipment does not conflict with standards for that specific type of equipment established by the department of health or DOSH.

(2) WAC 296-842-11005 does not apply to the voluntary use of filtering-facepiece respirators, as defined under WAC 296-842-10200, under this section. Voluntary use of respirators not considered filtering-facepieces, such as elastomeric respirators, must comply with WAC 296-842-11005 and 296-842-11010.

(3) An employer may verify that voluntary use of personal protective equipment meets all regulatory requirements for workplace health and safety.

(4) Employers do not have to purchase, store, maintain, or otherwise provide protective devices or equipment for voluntary use by employees under this section.

(5) RCW 49.17.485 precludes DOSH from issuing variances under RCW 49.17.080 related to voluntary personal protective devices and equipment during a public health emergency as defined in RCW 49.17.485.

NEW SECTION

WAC 296-800-16080 Voluntary use of personal protective equipment (PPE). (1) Every employer that does not require employees or contractors to wear a specific type of personal protective equipment as determined under the PPE hazard assessment, employer policy, or where otherwise required to comply with safety and health standards rules, must allow its employee's or contractor's voluntary use of PPE (PPE is an item or items used to protect the eyes, face, head, body, arms, hands, legs, and feet such as goggles, helmets, head covers, gloves, rubber slickers, disposable coveralls, safety shoes, protective shields, and barriers). This only applies when:

(a) The voluntary use of personal protective devices and equipment does not introduce hazards to the work environment and is consistent with applicable rules established by the department;

(b) The voluntary use of personal protective devices and equipment does not interfere with an employer's security requirements; and

(c) The voluntary use of these personal protective devices and equipment does not conflict with standards for that specific type of equipment established by the department of health or DOSH.

(2) WAC 296-842-11005 does not apply to the voluntary use of filtering-facepiece respirators, as defined under WAC 296-842-10200, under this section. Voluntary use of respirators not considered filtering-facepieces, such as elastomeric respirators, must comply with WAC 296-842-11005 and 296-842-11010.

(3) An employer may verify that voluntary use of personal protective equipment meets all regulatory requirements for workplace health and safety.

(4) Employers do not have to purchase, store, maintain, or otherwise provide protective devices or equipment for voluntary use by employees under this section.

(5) RCW 49.17.485 precludes DOSH from issuing variances under RCW 49.17.080 related to voluntary personal protective devices and equipment during a public health emergency as defined in RCW 49.17.485.