

WAC 296-307-63610 Establish a baseline audiogram for each exposed employee.

You must:

- Conduct a baseline audiogram when an employee is first assigned to work involving noise exposures that equal or exceed 85 dBA TWA₈.
- Make sure this audiogram is completed no more than one hundred eighty days after the employee is first assigned

OR

- Make sure employee is covered by a hearing protection audit program (as described by WAC 296-307-638 and available as an alternative only for employees hired for less than one year).

Note: Employers who utilize mobile test units are allowed up to one year to obtain a valid baseline audiogram for each exposed employee. The employees must still be given training and hearing protection as required by this part.

You must:

- Make sure employees are not exposed to workplace noise at least fourteen hours before testing to establish a baseline audiogram.
- Hearing protectors may be used to accomplish this.
- Notify employees of the need to avoid high levels of nonoccupational noise exposure (such as loud music, headphones, guns, power tools, motorcycles, etc.) during the fourteen-hour period immediately preceding the baseline audiometric examination.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. WSR 05-01-166, § 296-307-63610, filed 12/21/04, effective 4/2/05.]