WAC 296-307-63825 Make sure third-party hearing loss prevention programs meet the following requirements.

IMPORTANT:

Third-party hearing loss prevention programs are intended:

1. For short-term employees hired or assigned to duties having noise exposures for less than one year;

AND

2. For seasonal employees.

However, other employees may be included as long as the employer meets all requirements for hearing loss follow-ups and recordkeeping.

- (1) The employer must make sure that the third-party program is:
- (a) Equivalent to an employer program as required by this part;

AND

- (b) Uses audiometric testing to evaluate hearing loss.
- (2) The employer must make sure a licensed or certified audiologist, otolaryngologist, or other qualified physician administers the third-party program.
- (3) The employer must make sure the third-party program has written procedures for:
- (a) Communicating with participating employers of program requirements;
 - (b) Follow-up procedures for detected hearing loss;
 - (c) Annual review of participating employer programs.
- (4) The employer must make sure the following program elements are corrected by the employer or the third-party program when deficiencies are found:
 - (a) Noise exposures;
 - (b) Hearing protection;
 - (c) Employee training;
 - (d) Noise controls.
- (5) The employer must obtain a review of the hearing loss prevention program at least once per year, conducted by the third-party program administrator or their representative, in order to:
- (a) Identify any tasks needing a revised selection of hearing protection;

AND

(b) Provide an overall assessment of the employers' hearing loss prevention activities.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060. WSR 20-21-091, § 296-307-63825, filed 10/20/20, effective 11/20/20; WSR 05-01-166, § 296-307-63825, filed 12/21/04, effective 4/2/05.]