

WAC 296-24-71503 Ventilation for general welding and cutting.

(1) **General.** You must provide mechanical ventilation when welding or cutting is done on metals not covered in WAC 296-24-71509 through 296-24-71523. (For specific material, see the ventilation requirements of WAC 296-24-71509 through 296-24-71523.)

(a) In a space of less than 10,000 cubic feet per welder.

(b) In a room having a ceiling height of less than 16 feet.

(c) In confined spaces or where the welding space contains partitions, balconies, or other structural barriers to the extent that they significantly obstruct cross ventilation.

(2) **Minimum rate.** Such ventilation must be at the minimum rate of 2,000 cubic feet per minute per welder, except where local exhaust hoods and booths as per WAC 296-24-71505, or airline respirators approved by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) for such purposes are provided. Natural ventilation is considered sufficient for welding or cutting operations where the restrictions in WAC 296-24-71503(1) are not present.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060. WSR 15-24-100, § 296-24-71503, filed 12/1/15, effective 1/5/16. Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 94-15-096 (Order 94-07), § 296-24-71503, filed 7/20/94, effective 9/20/94; Order 73-5, § 296-24-71503, filed 5/9/73 and Order 73-4, § 296-24-71503, filed 5/7/73.]