

WAC 296-307-63220 Make sure exposed employees receive training about noise and hearing protection. (1) The employer must train all employees whose noise exposure equals or exceeds 85 dBA TWA₈.

(2) The employer must provide training when an employee is first assigned to a position involving noise exposure that equals or exceeds 85 dBA TWA₈ **and** at least annually after that.

(3) The employer must update information provided in the training program to be consistent with changes in controls, hearing protectors and work processes.

(4) The employer must make sure noise and hearing protection training includes:

(a) The effects of noise on hearing (including both occupational and nonoccupational exposures);

(b) Noise controls used in workplace;

(c) The purpose of hearing protectors: The advantages, disadvantages, and attenuation of various types;

(d) Instructions about selecting, fitting, using, and caring for hearing protection;

(e) The purpose and procedures for program evaluation including audiometric testing and hearing protection auditing when the employer chooses to rely upon auditing (see WAC 296-307-638);

(f) The employees' right to access records kept by the employer.

(5) The employer must maintain a written program describing initial and refresher training.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, and 49.17.060. WSR 20-21-091, § 296-307-63220, filed 10/20/20, effective 11/20/20; WSR 05-01-166, § 296-307-63220, filed 12/21/04, effective 4/2/05.]