



HEARING CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Regulation summary: Part 12 of the WSH Regulation, Hearing Conservation and Noise Control, requires employers to assess the workplace for noise exposure. If the eight-hour average noise exposure level is above 85 dBA, the employer must institute a hearing conservation program. When workers are exposed to noise levels above 80 dBA, the employer must provide training to all workers on the hazards of the level of noise they are experiencing and provide hearing protection for workers who request it.

When a noise exposure assessment indicates a worker is exposed to noise in the workplace that exceeds 85 dBA, the employer must inform the worker and implement sound control measures to reduce the noise to 85 dBA or less.

If the employer is unable to reduce the noise to below 85 dBA, the employer must implement all requirements under Part 12 of the WSH Regulation:

- **All** employees will be trained in hearing conservation.
- Annual sound monitoring will be conducted on all facets of work performed or when equipment or tasks change.
- Where average noise levels are in excess of 80 dBA hearing protection will be made available, in excess of 85 dBA hearing protection **must** be worn.
- Provide, at no cost to the employee, an initial test of the worker's hearing within six months of being exposed.
- Provide hearing testing to employees every two years thereafter to monitor any hearing loss.
- Training will be provided on the fit, care, and use of hearing protection.

Note: For new employees, a baseline test must be conducted within the first six months of employment.

Owner

Date