

FSIS Employee Training

Eye Protection – Safety Glasses

INSTRUCTIONS

This document provides training on Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for eye protection as required by Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulation 29 CFR 1910.132, PPE General Requirements and 29 CFR 1910.133, Eye and Face Protection. After reading, and prior to performing work that requires this type of PPE, your supervisor may ask you to demonstrate your understanding of the information in this handout, such as your ability to properly use the PPE. You must also follow any specific manufacturer instructions on the use and care of the PPE.

PPE SELECTION

- Safety glasses provide eye protection against moderate impact hazards such as flying particles, and some protection against small liquid splashes.
- FSIS offers two types of non-prescription safety glasses: a regular style and a style that fits over prescription eyewear. Both have a wrap-around design with integral side shields.



Safety Glasses
(Not recommended for use over prescription glasses)

FSIS-17D

WHERE/WHEN

Safety glasses are required to be worn in some FSIS work areas. The FSIS PPE hazard assessment certification form that has been completed for your work area will indicate if safety glasses are required. If you are not sure whether safety glasses are required, consult with your supervisor.

PROPER USE

- Safety glasses should fit securely on the face. They should not fall off if you bend over or shift when you move your head. If proper fit is a problem, try the other style of safety glasses available.
- For the style of glasses that fits over prescription eyewear, the length of each temple arm is adjustable. To adjust, gently pull each temple arm to the desired length so it fits comfortably over the ear.
- If a splash to the face occurs while wearing safety glasses, remove and properly clean the glasses.
- If safety glasses cannot be cleaned, or are significantly impacted or damaged during use, replace them with another pair.



Safety Glasses
(Wear alone or over prescription glasses)

FSIS-74

LIMITATIONS

- Safety glasses provide some impact protection but are not unbreakable.
- There are gaps at the top and bottom of the glasses where liquids that splash the head or face, may enter.
- Safety glasses worn over prescription lenses may scratch the lenses if worn too tightly. Adjust the temple arm to provide a secure fit but prevent contact between the lenses.
- Safety glasses and prescription eyewear may fog, interrupting vision. (Anti-fog Eyeglass Wipes can be ordered from the FSIS catalogue.)
- Exposure to chemical vapors and liquids may weaken the safety glasses and cause cracks and damage.

CARE AND MAINTENANCE

- Wash safety glasses with mild soap and warm water. Rinse clean and remove excess water with a soft cloth or tissue and air dry. Do not use ammonia, alkaline or abrasive cleaning agents. Refer to the manufacturer instructions for specific details.
- Examine safety glasses at the beginning of each work shift. Replace immediately if any damage is visible.
- Store safety glasses in a clean, dry place.
- Dispose of safety glasses in the regular trash.

FSIS PPE ORDERING INFORMATION

- FSIS catalog numbers:
 - FSIS-74: Safety glasses designed to fit over prescription eyewear or worn alone
 - FSIS-17D: Regular wrap-around safety glasses
 - FSIS-57: Anti-fog Eyeglass Wipes

QUESTIONS?

For more information on this topic, please contact your Occupational Safety and Health Specialist. Contact information can be found on the FSIS Safety site at www.tinyurl.com/FSIS-ESHG.