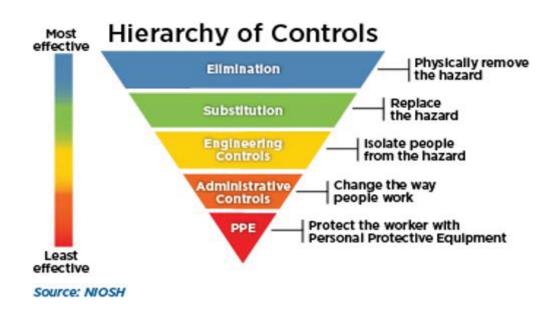
INFORMATION AND RESOURCES ON HOW TO USE THE HIERARCHY OF CONTROLS

The *hierarchy of controls* is the system used to select the most effective control measures for an identified workplace hazard. The most effective control at the top and the least effective at the bottom. Employers should always address a hazard using the most effective solution possible.



In the top four layers, something is being done to remove, reduce, contain or alter the hazard. However the last layer- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), does nothing to control the hazard but gives the worker something to wear to protect against it. When PPE fails, the worker is exposed to the hazard and injury or illness can result from the exposure.

### **EMPLOYER REQUIREMENTS FOR PPE**

When Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) is used, OSHA and PESH enforce regulations to assure that it is effective, and is properly used and maintained. The provision of head, eye and face, body, hand and foot protection is under the OSHA/PESH, General Requirements for PPE regulation (29 CFR 1910.132). Respiratory and hearing protection are covered under separate regulations 1910.134 and 1910.95, that require the development of separate written plans for their use.

The General Requirements for PPE regulation state that the:

- Employer perform a documented assessment of the work place that identifies the hazards present that require the use of PPE, the workers that are exposed to that hazard and the PPE provided to protect them.
- Specifications for PPE design are in the eye and face (1910.133), head (1910.135), foot (1910.136), and hand (1910.138) protection standards.
- Employer is required to train the employees on the PPE they are expected to use and how to wear, maintain and store it properly and in the training the employees must be able to show they understood the training provided.
- Employees are expected to properly wear, use and maintain the equipment.
- Employer is to monitor the use of PPE in the workplace.
- Re-training is provided when there is a new hazard requiring new kind of PPE be worn or PPE is not being used correctly.
- Use of damaged PPE is not permitted and must be immediately replaced.
- PPE must be provided by the employer except for prescription safety glasses, worn home, safety toe footwear, worn home, and logging boots, unless the union contract contains other provisions.

#### OSHA PPE Page:

https://www.osha.gov/shpguidelines/hazard-prevention.html

https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/personalprotectiveequipment/index.html

CDC/NIOSH:

https://www.cdc.gov/hai/prevent/infection-control-assessment-tools.html

https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/topics/hierarchy/default.html

https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/ppe/default.html

### For more information and resources visit:

## www.cseany.org/safety



# Follow the CSEA Safety Net on:

CSEA has been winning the fight for safe and healthy working conditions for over 100 years, yet there is more to be done. Hazards old and new- from Asbestos to Zikaremain a threat to workers every day. CSEA will not back down from the fight and nothing is more important than saving lives and keeping workers free from injury. Your help is needed now more than ever.

The life you save could be YOUR OWN.

