



Eye and Face Protection

Toolbox Talks are intended to facilitate health and safety discussions. Find more Toolbox Talks on the [Occupational Safety web page](#).

General Information

Safety glasses/goggles are required before entrance into any shop or laboratory on campus unless otherwise stated on the Safety Rules Poster.

Protecting the eyes and face from hazards is extremely important considering all of the organs and soft tissue in the area. For example, a projectile to the eye not only damages the eye, but potentially the ligaments and muscles that move it, and in some cases the brain. Furthermore, lacerations to the face can damage muscle tissue and leave life-long scars.

Always make sure PPE is properly rated for the job, fits properly, and doesn't obstruct your view. Safety glasses/goggles need to have the ANSI Z87.1 rating stamped on them to be approved for use on campus.

Causes of Eye and Face Injuries

- Splashes from harmful liquid chemicals such as acids or cleaning solutions
- Flying debris, chips and dust from grinding and windy conditions
- Flying projectiles from objects colliding, falling or being dumped
- Loose straps, cords or banding that breaks or snaps under extreme tension
- Extreme heat and light radiation from exposure to flames, welding or torches

Types of Personal Protective Equipment

- **Safety Goggles** - Enclose the area around the eyes to provide the highest protection against airborne particles, flying projectiles and splash hazards.



Directly vented –
Protect against flying particulates,
but NOT chemical hazards



Indirectly vented/Non-vented –
Protect against flying particulates
and chemical splash hazards

Discussion Date:

Supervisor:

Participants:

Safety Glasses with Side Shields - Provide protection against airborne particles and flying projectiles. Safety glasses are made of impact resistant material and many are available with UV protection &/or tinted lenses.



Prescription Safety Glasses - Standard prescription glasses are not made to protect you from eye hazards. To be protected, wear safety glasses that fit over top of your prescription (below left) or have Prescription Safety Glasses made for you (below right).



Weld Masks, Dark Shields, and Torch Glasses - protect the eyes and face from flying sparks, flash burns, and the intense light that occur during welding, torching and brazing operations. It is important to match the type and tint of the shade to the welding performed.



Face Shields - protect the face from grinding debris, flying projectiles, radiant heat and chemical splashes. Face shields should be used in conjunction with eye protection to be fully protected.



Discussion Topics

- What causes eye and face hazards in your work area?
- What behaviors cause a person not to wear required PPE?
- How do you get eye and face protection?
- When is eye and face protection required?