

OSHA finalizes PPE fit standard revision

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has finalized a revision to the personal protective equipment (PPE) standard for construction. The final rule explicitly requires the equipment to properly fit any construction worker who needs it, improving protection from hazardous conditions.

“I’ve talked to workers in construction, particularly women, who have spoken of personal protective equipment that didn’t fit or was simply unavailable at the jobsite in their size,” says Doug Parker, assistant secretary for occupational safety and health. “PPE must fit properly to work. I’m proud of the broad support from both employers and unions for OSHA’s efforts to make clear that employers must provide the right PPE for each worker who needs it.”

The revision to the standard adds specific language requiring that employers provide PPE that properly fits construction industry workers. The change aligns the construction industry standard with the standard already in place for general industry.

Many types of personal protective equipment must be sized to fit a worker properly. Improperly sized PPE can be ineffective in protecting workers; create new hazards for the worker, such as oversized gloves or protective clothing being caught in machinery; and discourage use because of discomfort or poor fit. The matter has been a longstanding industry safety concern, particularly among some women as well as among physically smaller or larger workers.

To view the rule, go to <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2024/12/12/2024-29220/personal-protective-equipment-in-construction>.

—Source: U.S. Department of Labor

INDUSTRY CALENDAR

Event details are subject to change.

ACI Concrete Convention Sheraton Centre Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada	March 30–April 3, 2025
SEI Structures Congress 2025 Phoenix, Ariz.	April 9–11, 2025
PTI Convention Phoenix, Ariz.	May 4–7, 2025
2025 IEEE-IAS/PCA Cement Conference Birmingham, Ala.	May 4–8, 2025
11th Conference on Analytical Models and New Concepts in Concrete and Masonry Structures Łódź, Poland	May 12–14, 2025
AASHTO Spring Meeting Hartford, Conn.	May 12–15, 2025
fib International Symposium on Conceptual Design of Concrete Structures Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	May 14–16, 2025
fib Symposium 2025 Antibes, France	June 16–18, 2025
Seventh International Conference on Accelerated Pavement Testing Hotel at Auburn University and Dixon Conference Center Auburn, Ala.	July 20–24, 2025
Concrete 2025 Adelaide, Australia	September 7–10, 2025

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