

Personal Protective Equipment and Clothing Policy

Purpose and Scope

The purpose of this policy is to ensure awareness and compliance with legal obligations by ensuring staff and students are aware of Personal Protective Equipment selection issue and use.

This policy applies to all staff, students, authorised contractors, and other personnel at workplaces under the management or control of Murdoch University

Objectives

- Murdoch University shall as far as is practicable eliminate or control hazards in the workplace. Personal Protective Equipment shall only be employed as a control measure where:
 - It is not otherwise practicable to eliminate or control the hazard effectively.
 - As an additional protective measure to existing control mechanisms.
- The University shall supply and maintain Personal Protective Equipment for staff as necessary to ensure that they are adequately protected from hazards in the workplace. All protective equipment provided by the University shall comply with current and relevant Australian Standards. Personal Protective Equipment supplied by the University will remain the property of the University.

Policy

1. Staff, students and visitors shall use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) as required by the University and shall immediately inform their supervisor of any defects or deficiencies in such equipment of which they become aware.
2. Managers and supervisors or staff, students, visitors and areas shall ensure that:
 - 2.1. All tasks performed are assessed to determine the requirement for PPE;
 - 2.2. The selection, supply and maintenance of PPE is suitable and sufficient to adequately protect the users from the hazards;
 - 2.3. All persons required to use PPE receive appropriate instruction in the safe use and maintenance of PPE;

- 2.4. The requirement to use PPE is enforced; and
- 2.5. Clear and appropriate signs are displayed in areas where PPE must be worn.
- 3. Conducting risk assessments for PPE
 - 3.1. A risk assessment should be completed prior to the provision of PPE. Higher levels of control should be identified before the issue of PPE.
- 4. Gloves
 - 4.1. Manager/supervisor must ensure:
 - 4.1.1. The gloves are suitable for the risks associated with the activity.
 - 4.1.2. The gloves conform to Australian Standards.
 - 4.1.3. The wearing of gloves do not introduce additional hazards/risk.
- 5. Gowns
 - 5.1. Gowns must be worn for all practical sessions where there is a risk from chemical, biological or other form of contamination.
 - 5.2. Gowns must be laundered at least every 2 weeks or more often for highly contaminating/dirty procedures.
- 6. Goggles
 - 6.1. Goggles or safety glasses must be worn for all practical sessions where there is a risk to the eyes and face from exposure to material, chemical, biological or other forms of contamination.
- 7. Specialist PPE
 - 7.1. PPE must be selected based on risk assessment and in addition to controls that are more effective. Additional PPE includes:
 - 7.1.1. Boots
 - 7.1.2. Masks / Breathing apparatus
 - 7.1.3. Sports Protective Equipment
 - 7.1.4. Helmets
 - 7.1.5. Face Shields
 - 7.1.6. Hearing Protection
 - 7.1.7. Harnesses
 - 7.1.8. Safety Vests
 - 7.1.9. Coveralls
- 8. Sterility Protection
 - 8.1. Some PPE is worn to protect tissue culture or other sterile procedures from becoming contaminated with human tissue, such as from the hands and face. It is important to note that equipment worn in this instance is unlikely to protect the wearer from contamination to themselves. This is specifically in the case of wearing hair nets, paper booties or paper gowns.
- 9. Requirements for health monitoring

- 9.1. Where staff are using PPE for protection of eyes, hearing or breathing, there may be a requirement for health monitoring.

Governance

Approval Authority	Senior Leadership Team
Owner	Chief People Officer
Legislation mandating compliance	Work Health and Safety Act 2020 Work Health and Safety Regulations 2022
Category	Primarily a function of management
Related University Legislation and Policy Documents	
Date effective	15/04/2024
Review date	15/04/2027

Related Documents

AS/NZS 4501 (series): Occupational protective clothing

AS/NZS 2161 (series): Occupational protective gloves

AS/NZS 1800: Occupational protective helmets

AS/NZS 1269 (series): Occupational noise management

AS/NZS 2210 (series): Occupational protective footwear

AS/NZS ISO 6529: Protective clothing - Protection against chemicals - Determination of resistance of protective clothing materials to permeation by liquids and gases

AS/NZS 4503 (series): Protective clothing

AS/NZS 1337 (series): Eye protectors for industrial applications

Revision History

Approved/Amended	Date Approved	Resolution No. (if applicable)
Approved	15/04/2024	

Administrative amendments	10/04/2024
Approved	28/02/2018
Approved	01/08/2012

Please refer to the electronic copy in the Policy and Procedure Manager to ensure you are referring to the latest version.