

State of Arizona Risk Management Loss Prevention NOISE EXPOSURE/HEARING PROTECTION CHECKLIST

([A.A.C. R2-10-207.10.c.](#)) Each state agency is responsible for assuring that employees do not suffer hearing loss from exposure to excessive noise while performing their jobs. If a manager or supervisor suspects that noise is excessively loud, noise measurements should be obtained to determine the actual intensity.

When employee noise exposures equal or exceed an 8-hour time-weighted average (TWA) of 85 decibels (dba), the agency must administer a continuing, effective hearing conservation program. A TWA of 85 dba is known as the Action Level and a TWA of 90 dba is the Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL).

CHECK	YES	NO	N/A
Identification of Noise Hazards			
Has a hazard identification for noise been carried out? For example, do people need to raise voices to speak with someone an arm's length away? Are there very loud impact noises?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have there been any workers compensation claims for hearing loss?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have you surveyed staff members in all areas of your agency for feedback on areas of concern?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Noise Risk Assessment			
Have all work areas been evaluated to determine if noise monitoring is warranted?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Have noise risk assessments been carried out by a competent person?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are any workers exposed to noise levels that exceed those specified in the table below?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Has a noise monitoring program been developed and implemented?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is noise monitoring repeated when there is a change in process, equipment, or controls, or if none of those apply on a recurring basis (e.g. every two years)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hazard Controls			
Is there a 'buy/hire quiet' policy to choose quieter tools and equipment? For example, noise reducing circular saw blades.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the workplace perform noisy work away from quiet work? For example, tile cutting and brick cutting separated from shipping and receiving.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are tools/equipment and noise controls maintained so as to minimize noise?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is work planned to minimize the time workers are exposed to excessive noise?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Personal Hearing Protectors			
Has proper hearing protection been identified and provided at no cost to the employees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Does the supervisor ensure that proper hearing protectors are worn by the affected employees?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is a variety of protectors provided for the employees to choose?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

NOISE EXPOSURE/HEARING PROTECTION CHECKLIST (cont.)

Information and Training			
Has a training program been instituted for all employees as part of a Hearing Conservation Program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the training done annually and include information on:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effects of noise on hearing? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose, advantages and disadvantages of hearing protectors? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruction on selection, fitting and care of hearing protectors? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The purpose of audiometric testing and an explanation of test procedures? 	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Is the OSHA Noise Standard (1910.95) posted where employees can read it?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Hearing Tests			
Is audiometric testing provided, at no cost, to all employees whose exposure is equal to or exceeds an 8-hour time weighted average of 85 dba?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are baseline audiograms given within 6 months of an employee's first exposure to noise levels equal or exceeding the action level?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are annual audiograms provided to employees in the hearing conservation program?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Are audiograms administered, reviewed and evaluated by competent trained personnel?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Note that this check list is to be used as a "tool" to assist in determining if unacceptable levels of noise are present in the workplace and may require that the agency develop and implement a hearing conservation program. The checklist is not all inclusive and [OSHA Standard 29 CFR 1910.95](#), Occupational noise exposure, should be used as a reference for additional requirements for hearing conservation and hazardous noise exposure. The OSHA website, www.OSHA.gov, is an excellent resource for all occupational related safety and health requirements.

Additional Comments: _____

Noise Levels and Exposure Times Equivalent to the Exposure Standard

Noise Level dB(A)	Exposure Time
90	8 hours
92	6 hours
95	4 hours
100	2 hours
105	1 hour
110	30 min