

Department of Customer Service

# Audiometric testing

SafeWork NSW  
Communication toolkit

August 2023





# Introduction

## New hearing test requirements begin 1 January 2024

Noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) is the biggest cause of permanent hearing loss in Australia. But it's also the most preventable.

From 1 January 2024, employers will need to provide hearing tests for workers who frequently use hearing protection to control noise that exceeds the noise exposure standards\*.

Regular hearing tests can help detect early signs of hearing loss and identify ear problems unrelated to noise exposure. Hearing tests can also help assess the effectiveness of workplace noise controls.

### Communication toolkit

This communication toolkit has been created to help you share information about the new requirement with your colleagues, members, customers and stakeholder networks.

The toolkit contains:

- [newsletters and websites](#)
- [social media](#)
- [poster and A4 fact sheet.](#)

### More information

[Visit the SafeWork NSW website](#) or contact SafeWork NSW on 13 10 50.

\* The Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (clause 56) sets an exposure standard for noise at an LAeq, 8h of 85dB(A) and a peak noise level at 140dB(C).

## New hearing test requirements for NSW employers

### New requirements for employers to provide hearing tests for workers begin 1 January 2024.

If you or your workers frequently use hearing protection to control noise that exceeds the noise exposure standards\*, you'll need to understand these changes.

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Regular hearing tests can help detect early signs of hearing loss and identify ear problems unrelated to noise exposure. Hearing tests can also help assess the effectiveness of workplace noise controls.

### Preparing for the changes

Employers can start preparing for these changes by:

- identifying and assessing sources of noise at work
- applying risk controls to eliminate or minimise the risk of hearing loss
- discussing these new requirements with workers.

You can also talk to SafeWork NSW for information and guidance on complying with legislation.

### More information

[Find more information on the SafeWork NSW website.](#)

\*The Work Health and Safety Regulation 2017 (clause 56) sets an exposure standard for noise at an LAeq, 8h of 85dB(A) and a peak noise level at 140dB(C).

# Social media content

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Use this content to share information about the new requirements on your own social media channels, including Facebook and LinkedIn.

## New hearing test requirements for NSW employers

1. If you're exposed to hazardous noise at work, you'll need to understand new hearing test requirements starting 1 January 2024. <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/noise-at-work/hearing-test-requirements-for-nsw-workers>.
2. From 1 January 2024, employers will need to provide hearing tests for workers who frequently use hearing protection to control noise that exceeds the noise exposure standards. <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/noise-at-work/hearing-test-requirements-for-nsw-workers>.
3. Noise induced hearing loss (NIHL) is the biggest cause of hearing loss in NSW. It's also the most preventable. Learn how to prevent NIHL. <https://www.safework.nsw.gov.au/hazards-a-z/noise-at-work/hearing-test-requirements-for-nsw-workers>.

# Poster and A4 fact sheet

## Poster

This poster has been designed to let workers know about the risks associated with noise-induced hearing loss (NIHL) and the new requirement for businesses to provide workers with hearing tests.

It also lets workers know where to go to find more information about preventing NIHL.



Display the poster on worksites, in break rooms or anywhere workers can see it.

[Download the poster.](#)

## A4 Fact Sheet

The A4 fact sheet lets businesses know how to prepare for the new hearing test requirements beginning 1 January 2024.

It can be shared with business owners, managers, supervisors and work health and safety practitioners to let them know more about the upcoming changes and where to find more information.



The fact sheet can also be given to workers and new starters. It is available in 11 languages including:

- [English](#)
- [Arabic](#)
- [Chinese \(Simplified\)](#)
- [Chinese \(Traditional\)](#)
- [Greek](#)
- [Italian](#)
- [Korean](#)
- [Punjabi](#)
- [Spanish](#)
- [Urdu](#)
- [Vietnamese.](#)

