

## Personal Protective Equipment – Appendix A: Definitions

**Accident** – an unforeseen or unplanned action or event.

**American National Standards Institute (ANSI)** – a private organization that oversees the development of consensus standards for products, services, and processes.

**Bloodborne Pathogens** – infectious organisms in blood that can cause disease in humans.

**Degradation rate** – the rate at which a chemical will physically change a material. Degradation can include swelling, stiffening, wrinkling, and color change.

**Hazard** – a source of danger.

**Incident** – any action or event that may cause employee, student, or visitor injury; or that could result in damage to College property.

**Infectious diseases** – disorders caused by organisms such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, or parasites that can be spread, directly or indirectly, from one person to another.

**National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH)** – the United States federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related injury and illness.

**OAR** – the State of Oregon Administrative Rules.

**Occupational Illness** – any abnormal condition or disorder, other than one resulting from an occupational injury, caused by exposure to environmental factors associated with employment. It may include acute and chronic illness or disease which may be caused by inhalation, absorption, ingestion, or direct contact.

**OR-OSHA** – the State of Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

**Permeation rate** – the process of a chemical moving through a protective clothing or material at a molecular level.

**Permissible Exposure Limit (PEL)** – the legal limit for exposure of an employee to a chemical substance or physical agent. PELs are established by OSHA.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)** – protective clothing, coverings, or equipment designed to protect employees from injury or occupational illnesses.