VCSU SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURES:
Noise/Hearing Protection

There are a number of jobs on campus that require employees to be exposed to extremely loud noises. To prevent work-related hearing loss, there are safe operating procedures to be aware of.

Personal Hearing Protection
Engineering controls (any mechanical device, physical barrier, enclosure or other design procedure that reduces the sound level at the source of noise generation or along the path of propagation of the noise to the individual. This does not include protective equipment such as ear muffs, plugs, or administrative controls.) are the first line of defense against hazardous noise levels. If the engineering control fails to reduce noise levels, other equipment must be used to prevent the noise exposure.

Personal protective equipment is to be used only temporarily or when engineering controls are not practical. When hearing protection is mandatory, employers should ensure that hearing protection is worn by all affected employees.

Disposable earplugs and earmuffs will be provided for the affected employees.

**Please see ‘VCSU SAFE OPERATING PROCEDURES: Personal Protective Equipment’ for more information.**