

Firefighters – UW researchers want to hear from you!

During fire suppression, standard use of firefighter personal protective equipment (PPE) provides important exposure control. Post-fire suppression, variation in individual PPE use and its impact on firefighter exposures remains poorly understood.

UW aims to address this research gap by examining PPE use behaviors during demobilization – the phase of fireground operations that includes rolling hose and loading equipment back onto a fire engine.

Phases of Fireground Operations



Fire Suppression → Gross Decontamination "Gross Decon" → Demobilization

With support from the WA Department of Labor & Industries, Safety & Health Investment Projects, we are working with local fire departments and the Washington State Council of Fire Fighters to better understand post-fire PPE use on a broad scale.

We want to learn about your PPE use during demobilization. **Your participation in an anonymous survey will help address post-fire exposures.** Your responses are key in identifying effective strategies to protect firefighter health.



What PPE do you use during demobilization?

Participate in a short survey to help develop effective strategies to reduce firefighter exposures post-fire suppression!



If you are interested in participating in the University of Washington's PPE Survey, please follow the steps below:

1. Complete a brief [eligibility questionnaire](#) (~2 minutes). You can also copy and paste this link: https://redcap.link/ppe_survey or scan the QR code provided.
2. Read and sign a research consent form (~5 minutes).
3. Respond to an email invitation to complete the PPE survey (~15 minutes).



If you have questions or encounter technical issues, feel free to contact: Asheton Gilbertson, UW Research Assistant, akmg2@uw.edu