

KDOT High Visibility Apparel Frequently Asked Questions September 1st, 2021

- 1. I am required to work a night project; what type of Hi-Vis apparel do I need to wear?**
 - a. Employees engaged in nighttime or low visibility activities **shall** wear KDOT approved ANSI Class 3 retro-reflective top garment and Class E pants or Gaiters. If working behind concrete safety barrier, new alignment or closed road an ANSI Class 3 top can be worn in lieu of ANSI Class E pants or gaiters. In addition, when flagging you will also need to wear KDOT approved orange headgear.
- 2. Can I wear an ANSI Class 3 jacket instead of a Class 3 vest for nighttime work?**
 - a. Yes, you may wear an ANSI Class 3 shirt, jacket, sweatshirt, or coat in-lieu of a Class 3 vest.
- 3. Can I purchase my own Class 3 vest for flagging and other work?**
 - a. No, KDOT will provide approved vests through the stock room.
- 4. Can tags be removed from my Hi-Vis vests or garments?**
 - a. No, by removing the tag we can no longer prove the garments certification, class or type.
- 5. Does Soiled Hi-Vis apparel have the same reflectivity as clean Hi-Vis apparel?**
 - a. No, soiled, dirty and well used Hi-Vis apparel will not reflect as much light.
- 6. When should I quit wearing and discard my Hi-Vis apparel or vest?**
 - a. When the retro reflective striping loses its effectiveness, (Check brightness with a flashlight while in a dark area) or when the garment has become faded, dirty or soiled. For your safety, only clean, bright, reflective Hi-Vis garments and vests can offer a high level of protection.
- 7. What is the service life expectancy of Hi-Vis apparel?**
 - a. Approximately 6 months, if worn daily. If not worn daily, expect up to 3 yrs. or more.
 - b. Inspect routinely for damage and fading. Dull colors and soiled garments are not as visible and offer very little protection.
 - c. Service life will be reduced if the garment is stored in a vehicle under direct sunlight.
- 8. When is Class 2 apparel no longer allowed to be worn?**
 - a. Class 2 apparel will not be allowed to be worn as an outer layer for activities on or adjacent to the roadway after 7/1/2020.
- 9. I don't like the sleeves on my Class 3 vest; can I cut them off?**
 - a. No, if you remove the sleeves, there is not sufficient reflective material to qualify as a Class III vest which is required on the right of way.
- 10. Do I need to have my safety vest closed when wearing it?**
 - a. Yes, the recommendation is to have your vest closed when wearing it on the right of way. The vest must be closed when Flagging.

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- 11. I like to wear bib overalls instead of jeans. I have been told I have to wear an ANSI Class 3 outer garment when I wear bibs while working on or near the roadway. Is that true?**
- a. Yes, Bibs and straps minimize or block the Hi Vis materials of a Class 3 garment worn underneath. If you wear bib overalls you must wear a Hi Vis Class 3 outer garment over the bibs while working on or near the roadway. *Added July 17th*