



Respiratory Protection Program

Voluntary N-95 Respirator Use

Employees, students, or affiliates may voluntarily use a filtering facepiece respirator (i.e., N95, N99 disposable dust masks) during activities that involve low-level exposures (below permissible exposure limits, threshold limit values), non-hazardous nuisance dust or another similar particulate.

Please review the information provided below and conduct the [Sum Total training on using the N95 Respirator](#).

Appendix D to Sec. 5144 (Mandatory) Information for Employees Using Respirators When Not Required Under the Standard

Respirators are an effective method of protection against designated hazards when properly selected and worn. Respirator use is encouraged, even when exposures are below the exposure limit, to provide an additional level of comfort and protection for workers.

However, if a respirator is used improperly or not kept clean, the respirator itself can become a hazard to the worker. Sometimes, workers may wear respirators to avoid exposures to hazards, even if the amount of hazardous substance doesn't exceed the limits set by Cal/OSHA standards. If your employer provides respirators for your voluntary use, or if you provide your own respirator, you need to take certain precautions to be sure that the respirator itself does not present a hazard.

You should do the following:

- Read and heed all instructions provided by the manufacturer on use, maintenance, cleaning and care, and warnings regarding the respirator's limitations.
- Choose respirators certified for use to protect against the contaminant of concern. NIOSH, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the US Department of Health and Human Services, certifies respirators. A label or statement of certification should appear on the respirator or respirator packaging. It will tell you what the respirator is designed for and how much it will protect you.
- Don't wear your respirator into atmospheres containing contaminants for which your respirator isn't designed to protect against. For example, a respirator designed to filter dust particles won't protect you against gases, vapors, or very small solid particles of fumes or smoke.
- Keep track of your respirator so that you don't mistakenly use someone else's respirator.

Employee Acknowledgement of receipt, review, and understanding of Title 8 CCR § 5144 Appendix D and associated proper use training.

Department Name: _____

Employee Name (print): _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Supervisor/HEERA (print): _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____