

The Entire Respiratory Program

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| (a) General Requirements | (k) Breathing Air Quality |
| (b) Voluntary Use | (l) Identification of filters, cartridges, & canisters |
| (c) Selection of Respirators | (m) Training |
| (d) Medical Evaluation | (n) Program Evaluation |
| (e) Fit Testing | (o) End of Service Life |
| (f) Facepiece Seal Protection | (p) Recordkeeping |
| (g) IDLH | (q) Medical Evaluation Form |
| (h) Cleaning & Disinfecting | (r) Voluntary Use Information |
| (i) Emergency Respirators | (s) Medical Recommendation |
| (j) Inspection and Repair | |

Respiratory Protection Program, Item A: General Requirements

- Must develop a written program with worksite-specific procedures when respirators are necessary or required by the employer. Program updated.

When are respirators necessary ? Full Respiratory Program participation is **required** when respirators are required by product label, permit conditions or the employer.

Respiratory Protection Program: 5 Basic elements of a full program

- 1) Written Respiratory Program Required.
A template is available at : <http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/whs/pdf/hs1513.pdf>
- 2) Medical Evaluation with questionnaire filled out and subsequent physician recommendation kept on file. Do this one time, unless employee has a physical change that could change ability to wear a respirator.
- 3) Annual Fit Testing. (document)
- 4) Annual training on limitations and capability, proper use, inspection and maintenance, how to recognize medical symptoms that may limit or prevent the effective use of respirators. (owners manual)

5) A Respirator Program Administrator (RPA) must be designated by the operation. This person is responsible for administering the program, ensuring the effectiveness of the program in compliance with the respiratory protection regulation, and implementing the elements of this WRITTEN PROGRAM for all uses of respirators in the operation.

Respirator Checklist

- Determine necessity from labels/conditions
- If respirators required, designate Program Administrator and get them trained.
- Write up written program (HS 1513)
- Distribute and have employees fill out medical questionnaire.
- Have PLHCP review questionnaires, if necessary, see employee(s)
- Employee brings back medical recommendation form...employer keeps on file
- Train and Fit Test according to OSHA protocols
- Evaluate program...modify as necessary
- Keep Records

Some important considerations re: **Voluntary use** & **Medical Evaluations**

Voluntary use = Employee request

EMPLOYER Provided:

Requires a Minimum Written Respiratory Protection Program including: medical eval. & device care only.
(Exemption: N-95)

Posting of subsec. (r) next to PSIS A-8 required.

EMPLOYEE Provided

Written Respiratory Protection Program NOT REQUIRED.

Same posting requirement.

Medical Evaluations

Employer must :

- 1) Identify a PLHCP to perform medical evaluations using a medical questionnaire or an initial medical examination that obtains the same information. Evaluation form must be filled out confidentially during worker's normal work hours or at a time and place convenient to the employee. Must be understood by the employee.
- 2) Provide a medical evaluation to determine worker's ability to use a respirator, *before fit testing and use.*
- 3) Keep on file. Only redo when a physical change in worker may affect ability to safely wear a respirator.