

Voluntary Filtering Facepiece Respirator Use Form

MCPS employees are permitted to voluntarily use filtering facepiece respirators in the workplace where they are not exposed to hazardous concentrations of air contaminants. **Please read the information below, fill in the blanks, and send the completed form to Systemwide Safety Programs.**

OSHA-Required Information for Employees Using Respirators Voluntarily

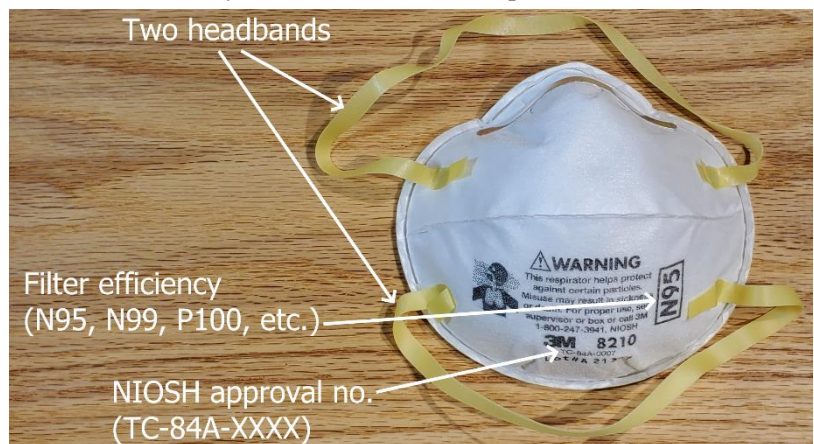
Respirators are an effective method of protection against designated hazards when properly selected and worn. Respirator use is encouraged, even when exposures are below the exposure limit, to provide an additional level of comfort and protection for workers. However, if a respirator is used improperly 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 does not exceed the limits set by 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:

1. Read and heed all instructions provided by the manufacturer on use, maintenance, cleaning, and care, and warnings regarding the respirator's limitations.
2. Choose respirators certified for use to protect against the contaminant of concern. NIOSH, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health of the U.S. 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.
3. Do not wear your respirator into atmospheres containing contaminants for which your respirator is not designed to protect against. For example, a respirator designed to filter dust particles will not protect you against gases, vapors, or very small solid particles of fumes or smoke.
4. Keep track of your respirator so that you do not mistakenly use someone else's respirator.

Example of a filtering facepiece respirator. Most have two headbands – masks with one headband or earloops are not respirators. Filtering facepiece respirators also have required markings:

- NIOSH in block letters or NIOSH logo
- NIOSH approval no. (starts with TC-84A-)
- Filter efficiency, such as N95, N99, P100, etc.
- Model or part number



Please complete the information below and email this form to Peter_Park@mcpsmd.org or fax to 301-279-3192. Provide a copy of the completed form to your supervisor and save a copy for your records.

Name: _____ Employee ID No.: _____

Email: _____ Job Title: _____

Work Location: _____

By signing this form, you are acknowledging that you have read and understand the provided information.

Signature: _____ Date: _____