

Respiratory Protection Program

- In accordance with [Michigan Occupational Health Standards Part 451: Respiratory Protection](#), all UMHHC employees are ensured protection from workplace exposures to respiratory hazards, to include inhaled chemical fumes, dusts, vapors, communicable diseases, and tuberculosis.
- Refer to [UMHHC Policy 05-01-003 Respiratory Protection](#) and [Safety Management Services Respiratory Protection Program reference page](#) for broader institutional policies and procedures regarding respiratory protection.

1. Usage of Respirators

- Employees who are exposed in the workplace to airborne particulates, vapors, and fumes above MIOSHA threshold concentrations and to tuberculosis must use respiratory protection. Precautionary/voluntary use of respiratory protection is permissible.
- Supervisors are responsible for reviewing the work tasks of each employee and determine whether or not a hazard(s) exists and consult with Safety Management Services as to which type of respirator may be utilized.
- Regardless of voluntary or mandatory use of a respirator is required, employees utilizing the respirator must:
 - Obtain medical clearance via Employee Health Services.
 - Attend respiratory protection training.
 - Be successfully fit tested.
 - Tasks requiring use of respirators shall **not** be assigned to employees who have not completed this process.
- Annual medical clearance is required for continued respirator use and/or if there is a significant change to work processes that may potentially increase the possibility of exceeding permissible exposure limits. If there are any changes to the employee's facial structure interfering with ability to form a proper seal employee shall be reevaluated.

The frequency of fit testing requirements is summarized below.

Respirator Type	Use	Training	Medical Clearance	Fit Testing
Filtering, N-95	TB only	Initial & Annual	Initial & Annual	Initial*
Filtering, PAPR	TB only	Initial & Annual	Initial & Annual	No

Filtering, N-95	Particulates, Dust	Initial & Annual	Initial & Annual	Initial & Annual
Filtering, PAPR	Particulates, Dust	Initial & Annual	Initial & Annual	No
Tight Fitting	Vapors, fumes, fine particulates	Initial & Annual	Initial & Annual	Initial & Annual

- Documentation of respiratory protection and permissible exposure limits are documented in EHS and SMS. Reports are provided to employees and Supervisors.
- Proper maintenance, cleaning, testing operation and health evaluation requirements of respirator care shall be ensured by the laboratory Chief Technologist/Supervisor.

References

[UMHHC Policy 05-01-003 Respiratory Protection](#)

[Safety Management Services Respiratory Protection Program reference page](#)

[29 CFR 1910.134](#)

[29 CFR 1910.1000 table Z \(limits for air contaminants\)](#)

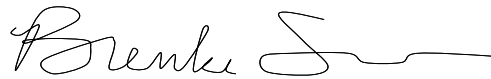
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