



Respiratory Protection Program **Appendix A – Definitions**

DEFINITIONS

This appendix identifies and defines various terms within the context of the University of Oregon Respiratory Protection Program.

1. “**Air-purifying respirator**” - a respirator with an air-purifying filter, cartridge, or canister that removes specific air contaminants by passing ambient air through the air- purifying element.
2. “**Atmosphere-supplying respirator**” - means a respirator that supplies the respirator user with breathing air from a source independent of the ambient atmosphere and includes supplied-air respirators and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) units.
3. “**Canister or cartridge**” - a container with a filter, sorbent, or catalyst, or a combination of these items, which removes specific contaminants from the air passed through the container.
4. “**Dust mask**” - a disposable mask that is not rated as a respirator by the manufacturer. A dust mask can be confused with a filtering facepiece. Dust masks are easiest identified by having only 1 strap. Dust masks will not say NIOSH or have a filter efficiency level marking (i.e. N95, N99, N100, R95, P95, P99, P100)
5. “**Employee**” – any person who is covered by workers’ compensation for the University of Oregon including full time, part time, and student staff. It does not include visitors, volunteers, temporary employees, or contractors.
6. “**Employee exposure**” - exposure to a concentration of an airborne contaminant that would occur if the employee were not using respiratory protection.
7. “**Elastomeric negative pressure respirator**” - a tight-fitting respirator in which the air pressure inside the facepiece is negative during inhalation with respect to the ambient air pressure outside the respirator.
8. “**Filtering facepiece**” - a negative pressure particulate respirator with a filter as an integral part of the facepiece or with the entire facepiece composed of the filtering medium. ***Filtering facepiece respirators are not dust masks.*** A filtering facepiece respirator can be easily identified by the markings on the respirator. Required markings will include: the manufacturers name, NIOSH (in block letters), TC approval number (TC-84A-XXXX), Filter Designation (i.e. N95, N99, N100, R95, P95, P99, P100), and a model number or part number. They may or may not also include a lot number and/or



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manufacturing date. More information on required labeling of a NIOSH approved filtering facepiece respirator can be found [here](#).

9. **“Immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH)”** - an atmosphere that poses an immediate threat to life, would cause irreversible adverse health effects, or would impair an individual’s ability to escape from a dangerous atmosphere.
10. **“Physician or Other Licensed Health Care Professional (PLHCP)”** - an individual whose legally permitted scope of practice (i.e., license, registration or certification) allows him or her to independently provide or be delegated the responsibility to provide, some or all of the health care services required by the regulatory authority.
11. **“Powered-air purifying respirator”** - an air-purifying respirator that used a blower to force the ambient air through air-purifying elements to the inlet covering.
12. **“Qualitative fit test”** - a pass or fail fit test to assess the adequacy of respirator fit that relies on the individual’s response to the test agent.
13. **“Quantitative fit test”** - an assessment of the adequacy of respirator fit by numerically measuring the amount of leakage into the respirator.
14. **“Self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA)”** - an atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the breathing air source is designed to be carried by the user.
15. **“Service life”** - the period of time that a respirator, filter or sorbent or other respiratory equipment provides adequate protection to the wearer.
16. **“Supplied-air respirator or airline respirator”** - an atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the source of breathing air is not designed to be carried by the user.
17. **“User seal check”** - an action conducted by the respirator user to determine if the respirator is properly seated to the face.