



N95 Respirators

also called filtering face piece respirators, are regulated under the Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) and managed through the University's Respiratory Protection Program. When worn correctly, N95's are capable of filtering 95% of airborne particulate at .3 microns or larger. Some employees at the UO may be required to wear an N95 during certain tasks as a result of a hazard assessment or an OSHA regulation. Employees who choose to, may voluntarily use an N95 even if it is not required for their work. Steps to begin wearing an N95 vary depending on required versus voluntary use.



Example of an N95 respirator.

STEPS FOR REQUIRED USERS:

- Contact Environmental Health & Safety (EHS) - Let them know you are required to use an N95 for your job.
- Take the online "Respiratory Protection: N95 Only" training - EHS will provide you with a link to MyTrack.
- Complete a medical questionnaire - A physician at University Health Services will review the information to determine if you are medically fit to wear a respirator.
- Schedule a fit test and mask use demonstration with EHS - A hood will be placed over your head and an artificial atmosphere created within the hood to determine if the fit is effective.

STEPS FOR VOLUNTARY USERS:

- Contact EHS - Let them know you would like to voluntarily use an N95 for your job.
- Take the online "Respiratory Protection: N95 Only" training - EHS will provide you with a link to MyTrack.
- Complete the "Voluntary Respirator Use" form - Return it to EHS.

WHAT TO DO!

- Speak with your supervisor before use of an N95 in the workplace.
- Only wear for protection from the hazards it is designed for. N95's are not made for protection against chemical vapors, toxic gases, low oxygen, or dust containing asbestos, lead, or silica.
- Always follow the manufacturer's guidance for safe use!
- KN95 masks offer similar protection and are much easier to wear for long periods of time making them a good alternative option when an N95 is not required.
- KN95s are NOT respirators so no additional training or paperwork is required to wear them. They are available at various locations on campus including Science Stores.
- N95's can be purchased at Science Stores, after you are verified by EHS as having completed the use requirements.
- Bring questions to your supervisor and direct additional questions to EHS.

