Respiratory Protection

OSHA requires the use of respirators to protect employees from respiratory hazards in workplace in accordance with standard 29 CFR 1910.134. Clemson University’s Respiratory Protection Program ensures all employees are properly protected from respiratory dangers, such as harmful dusts, fumes, gases, vapors, or when insufficient oxygen are present in the work area.

Respirator

A respirator is a protective facepiece, hood or helmet that is designed to protect the wearer against a variety of harmful airborne agents.

If your job may require any of these respirators, including a dust mask, to protect yourself from airborne hazards, you need to contact Research Safety for a hazard assessment.

The following steps provide a guidance for the university’s Respiratory Protection Program.

STEP 1: HAZARDS ASSESSMENT

Send the completed Respirator Selection and Used Form to Research safety, Jeff Anthony at jantho3@clemson.edu.

Research Safety will review your work practices, SDS and air monitoring results to determine if you need to use a respirator.

Yes

No

STEP 2: MEDICAL SURVEILLANCE PROGRAM.

If your job requires respiratory protection, you must be enrolled in the Clemson University Medical Surveillance Program.

Send the completed Medical Surveillance Program Form by fax to (864) 656-1123 or regular mail to: Medical Surveillance Program, Joseph F. Sullivan Center, 101 Edwards Hall, Clemson University, 29634. Attn: Angel Reid.

STEP 3: RESPIRATOR TRAINING

You must receive respirator training. You can do the training online or in person.

https://www.clemson.edu/research/safety/training/respiratory/index.html

STEP 4: FIT TEST

After your medical clearance and training have been completed, send email to jantho3@clemson.edu to schedule a quantitative respiratory fit test.

Industrial hygiene specialists help employees choose NIOSH certified respirators when respirators are required.

For more info about Respirator Protection Program, please visit:


VOLUNTARY USE OF RESPIRATORS

If Research Safety determines your task(s) does not require respiratory protection, but you want to use a dust mask for comfort reasons, you should fill out the Voluntary Dust Mask Use Form and send it to jantho3@clemson.edu for recordkeeping.