

## Respiratory Protection Program

**A**irborne contaminants in the workplace can pose a respiratory hazard. Respiratory protection is important but should be considered the last line of defense when reducing exposure to a hazard. (Please see the [Methods for Controlling Hazards Fact Sheet](#).)

### What is a respirator?

It is personal protective equipment that is worn over the mouth and nose or the entire face to protect you from breathing in dangerous substances.

### How does a respirator work?

Respirators work by either filtering particles from the air, chemically cleaning (purifying) the air, or supplying clean air from an outside source.

### What steps do I need to take?

#### Assessment

- EHRHS should be contacted to assess the area to determine if respiratory protection is needed, and if so, which type?

#### Medical Surveillance

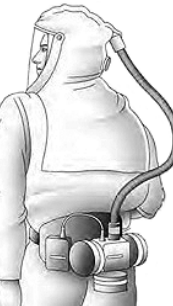
- Give the completed [Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire](#) to a physician or other licensed healthcare professional to determine your ability to wear a respirator while performing work tasks.
  - Employees can give the completed form to Employee Health Services.
  - Students can either give the completed form to a Student Health Services Physician or a Family Medical Physician.
- You and the physician or other licensed healthcare professional must complete the [Respiratory Medical Clearance Form](#).

#### Fit-Testing

- Make an appointment with EHRHS to be fit-tested, and **bring the completed Respiratory Medical Clearance Form to the session.**

### Quick Take

- Individuals must be medically cleared prior to getting fitted for a respirator.
- Contact EHRHS at 215-707-2520 to get fitted for a respirator.
- See our [Respiratory Protection Program](#) for more information.



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