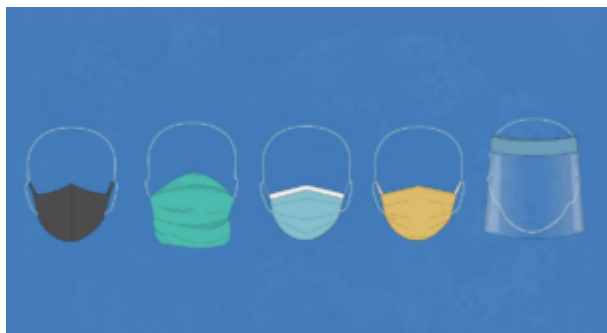



Respirators, Masks and Face Shields



AFL-CIO

RESPIRATORS, MASKS AND FACE SHIELDS

Type	Description	Uses	Certification Requirements	OSHA Requirements
RESPIRATORS				
Filtering Facepiece N95, N99, N100 R95, R99, R100 (oil resistant) P95, P99, P100 (oil proof) 	<p>An air-purifying respirator whose facepiece is constructed of filtering material.</p> <p>Half mask covering the mouth and nose.</p> <p>Forms a tight seal over the mouth and nose. Must be fit tested and user-seal checked by the individual wearer to ensure a tight seal.</p> <p>Facial hair must not interfere with the seal.</p> <p>Multiple sizes and styles must be available to fit all workers.</p> <p>Filters large and small harmful particles from the air, including aerosols, when the wearer inhales.</p> <p>Filter materials can provide different filtering efficiencies for capturing particles: N95 (95% efficient); N99 (99% efficient); N100 (99.97% efficient).</p> <p>Intended to be disposable and discarded after each use.</p> <p>Does not protect eyes against hazards or pathogens. A face shield or goggles also must be worn to protect the eyes.</p>	<p>Protects the person wearing the respirator when inhaling.</p> <p>Also provides a barrier to prevent exhalation of contamination by the wearer to others in the work environment.</p> <p>Some have exhalation valves that prevent steaming of the user's glasses, offer less breathing resistance, but do not block pathogens from coughs and sneezes of the wearer from escaping to the environment.</p> <p>R and P designations indicate that the filtration qualities of the material will continue to function in an oily environment.</p>	<p>The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) certifies all respirators that are to be worn by workers in the workplace.</p> <p>The manufacturer's name and "NIOSH approved" must be printed on the mask.</p> <p>Certification requirements for all respirators, including filter efficiency performance, are contained in 42 CFR Part 48.¹</p> <p>NIOSH publishes a list of approved manufacturers and issues a rescission letter for manufacturers that fail their requirements.²</p>	<p>YES</p> <p>When workers are required to wear a respirator, 29 CFR Part 1910.134 requires employers to assess risks, select a NIOSH-certified respirator and establish a comprehensive respiratory protection program.³</p> <p>The employer's written respiratory protection program must include procedures for selecting appropriate respirators; training employees on proper use and maintenance of respirators; monitoring proper use; medically evaluating employees; fit testing; and cleaning, storing in a clean location, inspecting, repairing, removing from service or discarding respirators.</p>