



# UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

## Safety Office Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) Respiratory Protection Voluntary Use

### I. Introduction

This SOP supports the University of Wyoming (UW) Respiratory Protection Program by providing specific information regarding voluntary use of respiratory protection equipment. For specific questions regarding this SOP, contact the Respiratory Protection Program Administrator at: 766-3203.

### II. Scope

This SOP applies to the UW Respiratory Protection Program voluntary use process.

### III. Procedure

For personnel who wish to voluntarily utilize National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) certified filtering face piece respirator, or other types of NIOSH certified respiratory protection equipment, contact the Program Administrator for specific information.

**Note:** For personnel who wish to utilize a disposable “dust mask” (not a filtering face piece respirator), there are no applicable regulatory requirements. These disposable “dust masks” generally provide user comfort but are not intended for respiratory protection. “Dust masks” cannot be used in hazardous atmospheres. “Dust masks” are not NIOSH certified filtering face pieces. “Dust masks” can be worn for comfort against non-toxic, nuisance dusts during activities like mowing, gardening, sweeping, and dusting. These masks do not offer protection against hazardous dusts, fumes, mists, gases, vapors, asbestos, or paint sprays. Users can determine the difference between a “dust mask” and a NIOSH certified respirator by reviewing the information printed on the product box or the NIOSH certifications stamped on the respirator.

The Program Administrator or Grand Avenue Urgent Care will provide the Medical Evaluation Questionnaire (Appendix F) to the employee.

The employee must complete the Medical Evaluation Questionnaire (Appendix F) and submit to the Physician or Other Licensed Health Care Professional (PLHCP) during their scheduled appointment (Grand Avenue Urgent Care).

The PLHCP appointment is scheduled by the employee after notifying the Program Administrator regarding the employee’s intent to voluntarily use respiratory protection equipment.

Once Grand Avenue Urgent Care determines the employee is medically able to utilize respiratory protection equipment, the employee will be notified.

Before personnel can voluntarily utilize the respiratory protection equipment, they must receive training regarding proper cleaning, maintenance, and storage of their respiratory protection



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equipment. The training is required initially and is fulfilled by the voluntary user reading and signing the Voluntary Use of Respiratory Protection Equipment Form (Appendix E).

Once the form is reviewed and signed, submit the completed form to the Program Administrator.

#### **IV. References**

UW Respiratory Protection Program Appendix E  
UW Respiratory Protection Program Appendix F  
29 CFR 1910.134