



# Respiratory Protection Program

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## WHO DOES THIS PROGRAM APPLY TO?

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- All Cal Poly faculty, staff, and student workers whose job tasks expose them to harmful levels of air contaminants above permissible levels and require a respirator to prevent occupational disease.
- The program applies whether the use of a respirator is by choice or voluntary\*.
  - \*The use of dust masks and surgical masks are not part of the RPP.
  - \*N95s may fall under the RPP when required use is in effect.
- The program does not apply to students, student volunteers, or non-employee research students. Faculty and student organization sponsors/leaders are encouraged to maintain safe environments and activities in which respirator use is neither necessary nor required. Faculty members and student organization leaders that require students to wear a respirator must make appropriate arrangements to ensure that use is conducted safely and in accordance with any applicable laws, standards, and best practices. The office of Environmental Health and Safety (EHS) is available for consultation.

## WHAT ARE THE KEY REQUIREMENTS OF THIS PROGRAM?

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- Employees exposed to materials that pose a respiratory hazard during their work, at levels exceeding the Permissible Exposure Limits set by OSHA, must wear a respirator.
- Principle Investigators, Supervisors, and other leadership positions must identify employees who may need respiratory protection equipment. They must enroll the employee into the RPP by using the link on the EHS website on the Respiratory Protection Program page. (URL: <https://forms.office.com/r/wvmrV3bXpR>.)
- Voluntary users must sign a “Employee Acknowledgement of Receipt of Title 8 CCR §1554 (available on EHS website listed above).
- Employees required to use respirators must complete three items to qualify as a registered user:
  - Annual respiratory protection training (see next section) on Skillsoft.
  - Annual fit test with EHS, in the months of February and July, or at the time of enrollment.
  - Biennial medical clearance through Examintetics (online service).
- EHS will provide managers with a link to the roster of registered users.

## APPLICABLE TRAINING

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- Visit the EHS Department’s Training Webpage at <https://afd.calpoly.edu/ehs/training>
- To initiate a request for training create a ticket by going to the Cal Poly Learning Hub Webpage and clicking on “create a ticket”. Include the curriculum name and the code in your request.
  - Curriculum Name: EHS BLOODBORNE PATHOGEN Code: CALPOLY-CURRIC-EHS-RESPIRATORY-PROTECTION

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

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- [EHS Respiratory Protection Program webpage](#)
- [Cal OSHA §5144 Respiratory Protection](#)