



TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER

Operating Policy and Procedure

HSC OP: 75.12, TTUHSC Guidelines for Using N-95 Respirators

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Health Sciences Center Operating Policy and Procedure (HSC OP) is to provide guidance in the voluntary use of N-95 respirators, and to promote compliance with U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines supporting the use of N-95 respirators for protection from various diseases and conditions.

REVIEW: This HSC OP will be reviewed by September 1 of each even-numbered year (ENY) by the Director of Safety Services, the Director of Institutional Health, and the Office of Institutional Health

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

1. Administration.

- a. The Respirator Program Administrators (known hereafter as the Administrators) will be responsible for the overall administration of the program under the supervision of the TTUHSC Office of Institutional Health.
- b. The regional campuses at Amarillo, Abilene, and the Permian Basin, are responsible for appointing a Respiratory Program Coordinator (known hereafter as the coordinator) to implement the policy/procedures outlined below, in coordination with the Safety Services and Institutional Health programs.
- c. All records are maintained electronically and are available as needed.

2. Recommended Uses.

- a. In some circumstances, the use of N-95 respirators is recommended. Please follow the link for more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh>
- b. N-95 respirators are designed for protection from particulate contaminants, and **are not for use with gases or very small particle sizes**. Please follow the link for more information: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/nppt>

3. Applicable Personnel.

- a. Applicable personnel are defined as those who have access to N-95 respirators for the purpose of reducing personal exposure to the diseases and conditions listed in the CDC documents above.
- b. This policy applies to the following TTUHSC personnel, whose duties require associating with or are reasonably anticipated to have contact with any of the above diseases or conditions:
 - (1) All TTUHSC students working on an academic assignment; and
 - (2) All TTUHSC volunteers
- c. This policy also applies to TTUHSC personnel who work in the following TTUHSC worksite locations:

- (1) All TTUHSC facilities, including leased facilities
- (2) Hospitals
- (3) Nursing homes

- d. All external vendors, who require respiratory protection, must follow their own internal policies and any testing is their responsibility.

4. **Responsibilities.**

- a. TTUHSC Safety Services / Institutional Health will provide N-95 respirator training and fit testing. Personnel receiving this training may request a copy of: their results.
- b. Each TTUHSC department/school providing N-95 respirators shall provide respirators that are NIOSH certified and suitable for the purpose intended.
- c. TTUHSC department administrators/Program Coordinators are responsible for identifying applicable personnel who require access to N-95 respirators in relation to their assigned duties, and directing those personnel to the appropriate Administrator/Coordinator for training and fit testing.

5. **Scheduling.**

- a. Employees must request fit testing via HSCStaff.FitTesting@ttuhsc.edu.
- b. Students must request fit testing via HSCStudentFITSTesting@ttuhsc.edu.