



# South Carolina Department of Disabilities and Special Needs

## EOC INFORMATION SHEET

**2020-0053**

### **Fit Testing Guidelines**

Effectively immediately, OSHA expanded temporary enforcement guidance to their March 14, 2020, memorandum to Compliance Safety and Health Officers for enforcing annual fit-testing requirements of the Respiratory Protection standard, 29 CFR § 1910.134(f)(2), with regard to supply shortages of N95s or other filtering face piece respirators (FFRs) due to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic. The March 14 guidance, which applied to healthcare, now applies to all workplaces covered by OSHA where there is required use of respirators.

<https://www.osha.gov/memos/2020-03-14/temporary-enforcement-guidance-healthcare-respiratory-protection-annual-fit>

- The fit test is required for employees who are to wear respiratory protection. An initial fit test is required. OSHA is allowing some leeway in the annual renewals only during this pandemic.
- DDSN can perform the tests without certification by a knowledgeable and competent employee.
- Along with the fit test there is a medical screening that is required to ensure that someone is healthy enough to wear a respirator. There are documentation requirements, etc.  
<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134>
- Fit testing procedures: <https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134AppA>: Any one of the procedures, with the exception of tests B2 and B5.

**Resources:**

[https://www.osha.gov/video/respiratory\\_protection/fittesting.html](https://www.osha.gov/video/respiratory_protection/fittesting.html)  
[N95-Infographic-REACH-II-508.pdf](#)

[Fit-test-10.508\\_FNL-508.pdf](#)

[2018-130.pdf](#)