






Employee Mask/Respirator Guide

Item	COVID-19 Protection:	Required for Employee?	Can be worn voluntarily?	Approved for:	Not Approved for:	Provided by:	Example tasks:
No mask or Respirator	No mask or respirator needed if employee is able to follow social distancing and hygiene protocols.	N/A	N/A	Any work not requiring an employee to be closer than 6 feet to another person. Short-term intermittent contact such as passing closer than 6 feet in a hallway is also fine.	Any work activities requiring a higher level of protection.	N/A	Office work Work tasks that can be completed by one employee
 Cloth face mask	Can protect other people in the general public from the wearer's respiratory droplets. Cloth face masks are not classified by OSHA as PPE.	No	Yes	Can be voluntarily worn by any PCC employee whose work does not require them to be closer than 6 feet to another person. Short-term intermittent contact such as passing closer than 6 feet in a hallway is also fine.	Any work activities requiring a higher level of protection. May not be substituted in place of a surgical mask or other respirator.	Employee	Office work Work areas where employees can follow social distancing and hygiene protocols.
 Surgical mask	Can protect other people from wearer's respiratory droplets, can provide some protection to the wearer from other peoples' larger respiratory droplets.	Yes, for approved critical work tasks closer than 6 feet to another person.	No. There is a limited supply, and they must be conserved for required work.	Approved critical work tasks requiring the employee to be closer than 6 feet to another person.	Any work activities requiring a higher level of respiratory protection. May not be substituted in place of an N95 or other type of respirator.	PCC	Custodial work Dining services Work tasks needing more than one employee to complete
 N or P 95 disposable respirator	Protects the wearer from inhalation of at least 95% of airborne particles.	Yes, for some specific non-COVID-19 hazards. In very rare cases for COVID-19 protection.	No , with specific exceptions. There is a limited supply and they must be conserved for required work.	Work requiring an N or P 95 respirator as part of the normal work task for trained, medically cleared and fit-tested employees. In rare cases, an N or P 95 may be voluntarily worn in lieu of a surgical mask if no surgical mask is available and the employee <u>is NOT respirator trained or fit tested for another type of respirator.</u>	Any work activities requiring a higher level of respiratory protection. May not be substituted when work task requires a half face or full-face respirator.	PCC	Pressure washing feces Sanding Grinding
 Half face respirator with P100 cartridges	Protects the wearer from inhalation of 99.97% of airborne particles.	Yes, for some specific non-COVID-19 hazards.	Yes, can be worn voluntarily by trained, medically cleared, and fit-tested employees in lieu of a surgical mask, or N or P 95 respirator.	Work requiring a half face respirator as part of the normal work task for trained, medically cleared and fit-tested employees. May be voluntarily worn in lieu of a surgical mask or N or P 95, if those are unavailable, <u>by trained, medically cleared and fit-tested employees only.</u>	Any work activities requiring a higher level of respiratory protection. May not be substituted when work task requires full-face respirator.	PCC	Ceramic glaze mixing Chemical spill clean-up Asbestos abatement
 Full face respirator with P100 cartridges	Protect the wearer from inhalation of, or exposure to, 99.97% of airborne particles via the eyes, nose, and mouth.	Yes, for some specific non-COVID-19 hazards.	Yes, can be worn voluntarily by trained, medically cleared, and fit-tested employees in lieu of a surgical mask, N or P 95, or half face respirator.	Work requiring a full-face respirator as part of the normal work task for trained, medically cleared and fit-tested employees. May be voluntarily worn in lieu of a surgical mask, N or P 95, or half face respirator, if those are unavailable, <u>by trained, medically cleared and fit-tested employees only.</u>	Any work activities requiring a higher level of respiratory protection. May not be substituted when work task requires an air supplied respirator.	PCC	Chemical spill clean-up Asbestos abatement Managing pool chemicals

Note: Air supplied respirators are used by the Fire Protection Technology program only and should not be used for any purpose other than academic.

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