

N95 Respirator Guidance
August 12, 2020

Per clinical guidance at this time, fitted N95 respirator masks should be used when staff are providing care in a setting where an individual has tested positive, presumed positive, or is a Person Under Investigation (PUI) for COVID-19.

Please note: if a respirator is not available or the OSHA standards cannot be met, CDC guidance indicates that a surgical mask may serve as a replacement when paired with the appropriate additional PPE (gloves, gown, eye protection/face shield).

If a fitted N95 respirator mask is issued, it is the responsibility of the employer to facilitate proper fit testing and documentation. See [OSHA guidance](#) for details. In particular, there are three items:

1. Respiratory Protection Plan – to be created by the employer. See this example for [small entity compliance](#).
2. Medical Evaluation – for the staff person, to be sure an N95 respirator is safe for them.
3. Fit Testing – for the staff person and to be done with the specific type of N95 that is given to them.

The following is a list of fit test resources known to DDS. There are others and this list is not a recommendation, just a list of known resources:

- Concentra Occupational Health
- PRO's Medical, Brookfield CT
- CT Fire Academy, Windsor Locks CT