

TOOL TYPE **CHECKLIST**
GEOGRAPHY **US**

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SOURCE: OSHA

RESPIRATOR USER MEDICAL EVALUATION CHECKLIST

PROBLEM

The OSHA Respiratory Protection Standard (1910.134(e)) requires you to implement a Respiratory Protection Program that includes, among other things, a system of ensuring that workers undergo a medical evaluation before being required to use a respirator.

HOW THE TOOL HELPS SOLVE THE PROBLEM

The following Checklist for Medical Evaluation comes from OSHA guidelines and will help you: i. do a self-assessment and determine if you comply with OSHA medical evaluation of respirator user requirements; and, ii. remain in compliance going forward.

CHECKLIST FOR MEDICAL EVALUATION OF RESPIRATOR USERS

√ Check to make sure that all of the following things have been done at your facility or workplace:

All employees have been evaluated to determine their ability to wear a respirator prior to being fit tested for or wearing a respirator for the first time in your workplace.

A physician or other licensed healthcare professional (PLHCP) has been identified to perform the medical evaluations.

The medical evaluations obtain the information requested in *Sections 1 and 2, Part A of Appendix C of the standard, 29 CFR 1910.134.*

Employees are provided follow-up medical exams if they answer positively to any of *questions 1 through 8 in Section 2, Part A of Appendix C* of the standard, or if their medical examination reveals that a follow-up exam is needed.

Medical evaluations are administered confidentially during normal work hours, and in a manner that is understandable to employees.

Employees are provided the opportunity to discuss the medical evaluation results with the PLHCP.

The following supplemental information is provided to the PLHCP before he or she makes a decision about respirator use:

- Type and weight of the respirator.
- Duration and frequency of respirator use.
- Expected physical work effort.
- Additional protective clothing to be worn.
- Potential temperature and humidity extremes.

Written copies of the respiratory protection program and the Respiratory Protection standard are provided to the PLHCP.

Written recommendations are obtained from the PLHCP regarding each employee's ability to wear a respirator, and that the PLHCP has given the worker a copy of these recommendations.

Employees who are medically unable to wear a negative pressure respirator are provided with a powered air-purifying respirator (PAPR) if they are found by the PLHCP to be medically able to use a PAPR. (*29 CFR 1910.1034(e)(6)(ii).*)

Employees are given additional medical evaluations when:

The employee reports symptoms related to his or her ability to use a respirator.

The PLHCP, respiratory protection program administrator, or supervisor determines that a medical reevaluation is necessary.

Information from the respiratory protection program suggests a need for reevaluation.

Workplace conditions have changed in a way that could potentially place an increased physiological burden on the employee.