

WAC 296-307-60605 Conduct fit testing.

You must:

- Provide, at no cost to the employee, fit tests for ALL tight fitting respirators on the following schedule:

- Before employees are assigned duties that may require the use of respirators

- At least every twelve months after initial testing

- Whenever any of the following occurs:

- A different respirator facepiece is chosen such as a different type, model, style, or size

- You become aware of a physical change in an employee that could affect respirator fit. For example, you may observe, or be told about, facial scarring, dental changes, cosmetic surgery, or obvious weight changes

- An employee notifies you, or your LHCP, that the respirator fit is unacceptable. During the retest, you must give an employee reasonable opportunity to select a different respirator facepiece (size, model, etc.).

Note:

- You may accept a fit test completed by a previous employer IF:

- You obtain written documentation of the fit test

AND

- The results of the fit test are not more than twelve months old

AND

- The employee will use the same respirator (the same type, model, style, and size)

AND

- The fit test was conducted in a way that meets the requirements of WAC 296-307-606 and 296-307-62010.

You must:

- Select an appropriate fit-testing procedure from WAC 296-307-62010 of this part AND:

- Use quantitative fit-test methods when a negative pressure respirator will be used in concentrations requiring a protection factor greater than 10. This includes:

- Full facepiece air-purifying respirators

- SCBAs operated in demand (negative pressure) mode

- Air-line respirators operated in demand mode.

- Make sure PAPRs, SCBAs, or air-line respirators are fit tested in negative-pressure mode.

- Make sure the person conducting fit testing is able to do ALL of the following:

- Prepare test solutions if required

- Make sure equipment works properly

- Perform tests properly

- Recognize invalid tests

- Calculate fit factors properly if required.

Note:

- No specific training program or certification is required for those who conduct fit tests.

- You should consider evaluating these individuals to determine their proficiency in the fit-testing method to be used.

- You can use an evaluation form such as the form included in the American National Standard for Respirator Fit Testing Methods, ANSI/AIHA Z88.10-2001 to determine if the individual meets these requirements. Visit www.ansi.org or www.aiha.org.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060. WSR 05-01-166, § 296-307-60605, filed 12/21/04, effective 4/2/05.]