

# UC SANTA BARBARA

## POLICY AND PROCEDURE

### Respiratory Protection

Contact: Environmental Health & Safety

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## RESPIRATORY PROTECTION

### I. SCOPE

This policy applies to University of California, Santa Barbara (UCSB) faculty, staff, students, visitors, and volunteers while engaged in University-related activities.

### II. DEFINITIONS

**Respiratory Protection Standard:** Set forth by [California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5144](#)

**Job hazard assessment (JHA):** The analysis of an individual's job tasks, tools, equipment, and procedures that determine the safety risk and how to control such risk.

### III. POLICY

Insofar as it is reasonably within the control of the University to do so, the University shall maintain an environment that will not adversely affect the health, safety, and well-being of students, employees, visitors, volunteers, and neighboring populations.

Hazardous atmospheres must be eliminated or reduced below applicable exposure limits using effective control measures whenever possible.

Utilization of respiratory protection equipment should only occur after implementation of all feasible engineering and administrative controls or while such controls are being developed.

The UCSB Respiratory Protection Program is administered by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S). All use of respiratory protection equipment, including filtering facepiece respirators (dust masks), must be reviewed and approved by EH&S. Campus procedures, requirements, and responsibilities for the use of respiratory protection equipment are outlined in the [UCSB Respiratory Protection Program Manual](#). All use of respiratory protection equipment must comply with [Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, General Safety Order 5144](#) and UCSB Respiratory Protection Program requirements.

### III. RESPONSIBILITIES

**Chancellor:** Must provide the resources needed to comply with the Respiratory Protection Standard.

**Deans and Vice Chancellors:** Must ensure units under their authority comply with this policy.

**Directors and Department Chairs:**

- Must provide the resources needed to ensure the health and safety of their employees;
- Ensure their department complies with this policy; and
- Identify supervisors and ensure supervisors complete training on health and safety responsibilities prior to supervising any person using hazardous materials.

**Managers, Supervisors, Faculty, and Principal Investigators:**

- Must ensure documented Job Hazard Assessments are conducted for all tasks where hazards are, or are likely to be, present and require the use of personal protective equipment per [Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, General Safety Order 3380](#);
- Ensure hazards identified are eliminated or adequately controlled;
- Identify individuals who may need to be enrolled in the Respiratory Protection Program and contact EH&S for evaluation;
- Ensure all use of respiratory protection equipment has been evaluated and approved by EH&S;
- Ensure direct reports utilizing respiratory protection equipment are enrolled in, and in compliance with, the UCSB Respiratory Protection Program;
- Enforce the use of respiratory protection equipment and safe work practices where required;
- Notify EH&S of any changes in a direct report's health status or the hazards for which their respiratory protection equipment is used;
- Ensure direct reports complete Respirator & Cartridge Usage Logs and receive new cartridges when needed; and
- Ensure direct reports comply with all other UCSB Respiratory Protection Program requirements.

**Employees, Students, Visitors, and Volunteers:**

- Must understand and comply with campus health and safety regulations, policies, and procedures;
- Notify their supervisor or EH&S about any hazardous conditions observed;
- Use respiratory protection equipment only after it has been evaluated and approved by EH&S;
- Use respiratory protection equipment only if currently enrolled in the Respiratory Protection Program and in compliance with all program requirements;
- Use only respiratory protection equipment for which they have been trained and fitted;
- Use respiratory protection equipment in accordance with instruction and training provided by EH&S personnel and their supervisor;
- Inform the Occupational Health Physician, their supervisor, or EH&S, of any discomfort or personal health problems caused by, or that could be aggravated by, the use of respiratory equipment;
- Guard their respirator against damage and ensure it is not disassembled, modified, or otherwise altered in any way;
- Report any observed damage or suspected malfunctioning of respiratory protection equipment to their supervisor or EH&S;

- Record respirator use on their Respirator Usage Log after each use, and obtain and replace filters/cartridges per the UCSB Cartridge Change Schedule.

**Office of Environmental Health and Safety:**

- Must designate an individual who is qualified by appropriate training and/or experience to administer the program.

**Program Administrator:**

- Serves as a technical resource to departments and assists them in carrying out their responsibilities as necessary;
- Must develop and maintain the UCSB Respiratory Protection Program and ensure it meets applicable regulatory requirements;
- Ensure appropriate respiratory protection equipment is issued and develop a cartridge change schedule where applicable;
- Provide training, fit-testing, and other technical assistance to UCSB personnel, students, visitors, and volunteers regarding respirator use;
- Monitor for unauthorized and/or improper respiratory protection equipment use; and
- Assess the effectiveness of the UCSB Respiratory Protection Program.

#### IV. PROCEDURES

Campus procedures, requirements, and responsibilities for the use of respiratory protection equipment are outlined in the [UCSB Respiratory Protection Program Manual](#). All use of respiratory protection equipment must comply with [Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations, General Safety Order 5144](#) and UCSB Respiratory Protection Program requirements.

#### V. REFERENCES

[UCSB Respiratory Protection Program Website](#)  
[UCSB Respiratory Protection Program Manual](#)  
[California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 5144 - Respiratory Protection](#)  
[California Code of Regulations, Title 8, Section 3380 – Personal Protective Devices](#)

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Please direct questions about this policy to [Environmental Health & Safety](#). For general policy questions or comments about this website, please contact [policy@ucsb.edu](mailto:policy@ucsb.edu).

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