

	Office of Environmental Health and Safety
Safety Guideline	N95 Respirators at UMB
	Effective Date: Updated June 2020

1. Background

The Covid19 Pandemic in 2020 has created a surge in worldwide use of respirators, in particular N95 types, as well as facemasks / surgical masks (examples pictured below).

2. Purpose of this Guideline

The purpose of this guideline is to provide UMB faculty, staff and students information on wearing a N95 respirator at UMB.

3. OSHA respirator requirements

A N95 respirator is regulated under OSHA if worn at work. OSHA requires a written respirator protection program, a hazard assessment of your work to assess the type of respirator that is needed, medical clearance to wear a respirator, and then fit-testing and training on that particular respirator. A respirator and other PPE are last lines of defense after utilizing both administrative and engineering controls to reduce and eliminate exposures to hazardous materials. Employees who wear any respirator on a voluntary basis must read [OSHA Appendix D](#).

4. CDC FAQ: Does CDC recommend use of Facemask to prevent Covid-19 ?

Yes - CDC recommend use of cloth face covers.

- Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover when around others
- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- Everyone should wear a cloth face cover when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities.
- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- The cloth face cover is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.
- Do NOT use a facemask meant for a healthcare worker.

Example of N95 Respirator



Example of face mask / surgical mask

