

Respirator Fit-Testing Requirements



Fit-testing of tight-fitting respirators is required in all jurisdictions but the specifics vary slightly.

Respirator Fit Testing Requirements Across Canada

FED	A required respiratory protective device must be selected, fitted, cared for, used and maintained in accordance with the standards set out in CSA Z94.4-M1982, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> , which requires fit testing [COHS Regs., Sec. 12.7(2)].
AB	An employer must ensure that respiratory protective equipment that depends on an effective facial seal for its safe use is correctly fit tested and tested in accordance with CSA Z94.4'02, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [OHS Code, Sec. 250(1)].
BC	<p>1) Annual reviews of PPE programs must ensure the adequacy of the fit test program [Sec. 8.6(2)(d)].</p> <p>2) A respirator which requires an effective seal with the face for proper functioning must not be issued to a worker unless a fit test demonstrates that the facepiece forms an effective seal with the wearer's face [OHS Reg., Sec. 8.40(1)].</p> <p>3) Fit tests must be performed in accordance with procedures in CSA Standard Z94.4-02, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [Sec. 8.40(2)].</p> <p>4) A fit test must be carried out: a) before initial use of a respirator; b) at least once a year; c) whenever there's a change in respirator facepiece, including the brand, model, and size; and d) whenever changes to the user's physical condition could affect the respirator fit [Sec. 8.40(2.1)].</p> <p>5) Other PPE that's to be worn at the same time as a respirator and which could interfere with the respirator fit must be worn during a fit test [Sec. 8.40(3)].</p>
MB	Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with CSA Z94.4-02, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [WSH Reg, Sec. 6.15(b)].

NB	Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with CSA Z94.4-93, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [OHS Reg, Sec. 51.6].
NL	Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with CSA Z94.4, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [OHS Regs, Sec. 83].
NT/NU	Employer must ensure that respiratory protective device is fit tested by a competent individual in an approved manner, where a tight fit is essential to the proper functioning of the device [Gen. Safety Regs, Sec. 91(1)(a)(iv)].
NS	Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with CSA Z94.4, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [OHS Regs, Sec. 83]. [Occ. Safety Gen. Regs, Sec. 13(3)].
ON	A respirator that's designed to be tight-fitting must be tested using either a qualitative or quantitative fit test [Control of Exposure to Bio. or Chem. Agents, Sec. 26.4(1)].
PE	Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with CSA Z94.4, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [OHS Regs, Sec. 45.18].
QC	Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with CSA Z94.4-93, <i>Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [OHS Reg, Sec. 45].
SK	When a tight fit is essential to ensure the worker isn't exposed to one or more airborne contaminants to an extent that may pose a risk of significant harm to the worker, an employer or contractor must ensure that the required respiratory protective device has been fit-tested by a competent person in an approved manner [OHS Regs, Sec. 88(1)(a)(iv)].
YK	Fit tests and fit checks must be carried out on workers as required to ensure an acceptable performance from the respirators being used [OHS Regs, Sec. 1.33].