

Respirator Requirements

Fit-Testing



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

Respirator Fit Testing Requirements Across Canada

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| 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)]. |

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| BC | <p>1) Annual reviews of PPE programs must ensure the adequacy of the fit test program [Sec. 8.6(2)(d)].2)</p> <p>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 <i>CSA Standard Z94.4-02, 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;</p> <p>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 | <p>Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with <i>CSA Z94.4-02, Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [WSH Reg, Sec. 6.15(b)].</p> |
| NB | <p>Doesn't specifically mention fit testing but the obligation is implied as part of the duty to ensure respirators are used in accordance with <i>CSA Z94.4-93, Selection, Use and Care of Respirators</i> [OHS Reg, Sec. 51.6].</p> |

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| 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 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]. |

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| SK | <p>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)].</p> |
| YK | <p>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].</p> |