Do you or your employees make applications in enclosed spaces, such as greenhouses or grain bins? Do you come into contact with harmful dusts, gases, vapors or mists?

Then you may be required to wear a respirator!

Why have respirator requirements changed under WPS?

- To ensure that respirators are providing the intended protection
- Respirators may place a physiological burden on the wearer
- All other industries require these protections

For questions on how to comply with the WPS requirements related to respirator use, please contact:

Pesticide Safety Education Program
Ohio State University Extension
614-292-4070 • pested.osu.edu
Using a Pesticide that Requires a Respirator?

Then you must provide these protections to yourself and your employees.

Medical Evaluation

- Employers must provide a medical evaluation at no cost to the employee, prior to any respirator use
- Employee fills out standard OSHA questionnaire and may submit to a physician or licensed health care professional. Convenient online services are also available
- Medical clearance is only required once, unless medical problems arise or a fit test indicates a need for re-evaluation

Fit Testing

- An annual fit test is required for all tight-fitting respirators, where required by the pesticide label
- Completed after receiving medical clearance
- Fit test must be conducted with the same make, model, style & size of respirator to be worn
- Includes particulate filtering facepiece respirators (dust/mist respirators)

Respirator Training

- Required annually or when workplace conditions change or a new type of respirator is used
- How to inspect, use and perform seal checks
- Respirator maintenance and storage
- How to select cartridges/canisters & change-out schedule
- How to recognize medical signs that limit effective use of respirators
- How to use respirators in emergency situations

Recordkeeping

- Records must be maintained for 2 years
- Name of employee
- Type of fit test performed
- Make, model & size of respirator tested
- Date and results of fit test