



State of Connecticut  
Department of Developmental Services

**DDS**

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**N95 Respirator Guidance  
July 6, 2020**

Per clinical guidance at this time, fitted N95 respirator masks should ONLY be used when staff are in the room with an individual who is undergoing any aerosol generating procedures including\* (regardless of COVID status):

- Receiving treatment for a tracheotomy
- Receiving treatment with suctioning (does not include toothbrushing with suction)
- Receiving treatment that utilizes a nebulizer
- Using a CPAP or BiPAP machine

\*The list of aerosol generating procedures may not be all inclusive.

Please note: if a respirator is not available or the OSHA standards cannot be met, CDC guidance indicates that a surgical mask may serve as a replacement when paired with the appropriate additional PPE (gloves, gown, eye protection/face shield).

If a fitted N95 respirator mask is issued, it is the responsibility of the employer to facilitate proper fit testing and documentation. See [OSHA guidance](#) for details. In particular, there are three items:

1. Respiratory Protection Plan – to be created by the employer. See this example for [small entity compliance](#).
2. Medical Evaluation – for the staff person, to be sure an N95 respirator is safe for them.
3. Fit Testing – for the staff person and to be done with the specific type of N95 that is given to them.

The following is a list of fit test resources known to DDS. There are others and this list is not a recommendation, just a list of known resources:

- Concentra Occupational Health
- PRO's Medical, Brookfield CT
- CT Fire Academy, Windsor Locks CT