

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Manisha Juthani, MD
Commissioner



Ned Lamont
Governor
Susan Bysiewicz
Lt. Governor

Facility Licensing and Investigations Section

BLAST FAX 2022-25

TO: Nursing Home Administrators

FROM: Commissioner Manisha Juthani, MD

CC: Deputy Commissioner Heather Aaron, MPH, LNHA
Adelita Orefice, MPM, JD, CHC, Senior Advisor to the Commissioner
Barbara Cass, RN., Branch Chief, Healthcare Quality and Safety Branch
Joanne Colletti, RN, Supervising Nurse Consultant, Health Care Acquired Infections Program

DATE: June 14, 2022

SUBJECT: Vendor-Provided Fit Testing for Connecticut Skilled Nursing Facilities

The Connecticut Department of Public Health (DPH) is pleased to share an opportunity for Qualitative Fit Testing for the use of N95 respirators (“N95 masks”) for staff working in a Skilled Nursing Facility (“SNF”). DPH is offering this service through a vendor, Safety Fit, Inc., at *no cost* to the SNFs as part of a federal grant to promote infection control in nursing home settings. Participation in this program is not mandatory, but we do encourage SNFs to take advantage of this free service to comply with the requirements of their respiratory protection programs.

Safety Fit, Inc. will contact each CT SNF to offer the service and schedule fit testing of its employees. As part of the service, Safety Fit, Inc. will provide the following:



Telecommunications Relay Service 7-1-1
410 Capitol Avenue, P.O. Box 340308 MS#13PHP
Hartford, Connecticut 06134-0308
www.ct.gov/dph
Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer



- Respirator Fit Testing (note: N95 masks must be provided by the facility);
- Hard copies of staff's Fit Test results;
- Certification cards to staff stating model, size, and date tested;
- Stickers with model and size for the back of employee badges;
- The initial medical forms to facility leadership for those not previously fit tested; and
- Licensed healthcare worker review of the OSHA forms for those previously Fit Tested.

Safety Fit, Inc. began reaching out to the skilled nursing facilities the week of June 6, 2022, to start scheduling the Fit Testing.

Should you have any questions, please contact Joanne Colletti at Joanne.Colletti@ct.gov.