



Dear CFDMC Members:

Central Florida Disaster Medical Coalition (CFDMC) and the Florida Department of Health's Healthcare-Associated Infection (HAI) Prevention Program is reaching out to offer a free training opportunity for health care personnel on qualitative fit testing for N95 respirators.

Train-the-trainer fit test training will take place on:

Date: Wednesday, April 5, 2023

**Location: Department of Health in St. Lucie Auditorium
5150 NW Milner Drive, Port St. Lucie, FL 34983**

There are two times to choose from:

- **Morning session – 9 am to noon**
- **Afternoon session – 2 to 5 pm**

Register at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/4-5-23-FT-TTT>

Soon after registration, you will receive an email confirmation with additional information. You will also receive a reminder prior to the training.

See below for additional details:

Who will be conducting this training? Sasha Nelson, MPH, CPH, CIC, CCMA (Regions 3 & 5 Infection Prevention Education Specialist) with assistance from Regions 3 & 5 Infection Preventionists.

Who should attend this training? Infection Preventionists or the person(s) responsible for facility's infection control program or respiratory protection program.

What is a respirator fit test? A fit test is conducted to verify that a respirator, (e.g., N95 respirator) is both comfortable and correctly fits the user. Fit test methods are classified as either qualitative or quantitative. A qualitative fit test is a pass/fail test that relies on the individual's sensory detection of a test agent, such as taste, smell, or involuntary cough (a reaction to irritant smoke*). The benefits of a fit test include better protection for the employee and verification that the employee is wearing a correctly fitting model and size of respirator.

Why learning to conduct fit testing of respirators is important? The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) (29 CFR 1910.134) requires an annual respirator fit test to confirm the respirator forms a tight seal on the wearer's face before it is used in the workplace. Fit tests must be performed by a qualified individual, able to follow the protocol and train employees.

How long will the training last? The training will take approximately 2- 2 ½ hours.

Will there be any recognition for receiving the training? After completion of the training and evaluation, the participant will be provided a certificate of attendance issued by the Florida Department of Health.

What attendees need to attend this training?

- Attendees need to bring their own qualitative respirator fit test kit.
- Attendees also need to bring a box of each of the N95 respirators currently in use or intended to be used at the facility. Attendees should bring more than one type N95 respirator in the event the participant fails the initial fit test and must be fit tested with a different respirator.

If facilities don't have a fit test kit, below is a list of some vendors where the qualitative fit test kit can be ordered. This list is not comprehensive and is only intended to save time in locating a fit test kit for the training.

- Allegro Industries: Either the [sweet: \(Saccharin\) Fit Test Kit - Allegro Industries \(allegrosafety.com\)](#) or [Bitter \(Denatonium Benzoate\) Fit Test Kit - Allegro Industries \(allegrosafety.com\)](#)
- 3M: Sweet fit testing kit, [3M™ Qualitative Fit Test Apparatus FT-10, Sweet | 3M United States](#) or bitter fit test kit: [3M™ Qualitative Fit Test Apparatus FT-30, Bitter | 3M United States](#)
- Halyard: [Qualitative Fit Test Kit | HALYARD \(halyardhealth.com\)](#)

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Sasha Nelson at Sasha.Nelson@flhealth.gov or Lynne Drawdy at info@centralfladisaster.org.

We look forward to seeing you there.