

From Cameron S. Ruppe, UOSH Division Director ([cruppe@utah.gov](mailto:cruppe@utah.gov)) regarding Respirators and COVID-19:

1. UOSH has not yet made and is not currently enforcing any new rules when it comes to COVID-19. None of the recommendations made by the CDC or other agencies, including wearing cloth masks, N95 respirators, or other respirators as PPE to protect against COVID-19, are currently being enforced by UOSH. If the State of Utah moves forward in adopting these recommendations as safety rules, UOSH will follow the rulemaking procedure, and inform all of you as stakeholders.
2. UOSH will address respirator use/non-use, fit tests, and medical evaluations on a case-by-case basis. The companies/sites that require all employees to wear \*respirators\* for the sole purpose of protecting against COVID-19 are, it is assumed, attempting to adhere to recommendations from agencies other than UOSH. Therefore, UOSH will not be pursuing citations in those situations. However, when employees are wearing respirators for recognized hazards such as silica, respirators should be used only when they have followed the proper procedures of fit-testing, medical evaluations, etc.

Please see [coronavirus.utah.gov](https://coronavirus.utah.gov) for more information, and feel free to reach out to me with any questions.