





Dust Masks are Not Respirators

	Intended Purpose	Requirements
	<p>Dust masks, or “filtering facepiece respirators”, are intended to protect the wearer from inhaling excessive dust, dirt, aerosols, and for some types, welding fumes. They do not protect against gases, vapors, or harmful quantities of particulates.</p> <p>The following conditions must exist in order for dust mask respirators to be used voluntarily:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Exposure to airborne contaminants is below OSHA permissible exposure limits (PELs). ▪ Exposure is only to non-toxic nuisance materials (plant dust, agar dust). ▪ There is no exposure to airborne infectious disease agents. ▪ The dust mask is not worn to reduce exposure to gases or vapors. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ COSE Policy covers dust masks ▪ Users must read a short training policy sheet titled, “<i>Information for Employees Using Filtering Facepiece Respirators When Not Required</i>”. ▪ All dust masks must meet NIOSH N95 standards.
	<p>Simple surgical masks can reduce the spread of bacteria in aerosols. Apart from protecting the wearer from splashes in the mouth with body fluids, they are intended to protect others from the wearer’s oral and nasal bacteria. They are not designed to protect the wearer from inhaled particles.</p>	<p>Surgical masks are not allowed.</p>
 <p>Half-Face↑</p>  <p>Full-Face↑</p>	<p>A respirator is a device designed to protect the wearer from inhaling harmful dusts, fumes, vapors, and/or gases.</p>	<p>Users must comply with the SFSU Respirator Program before a respirator may be issued by Campus EHOS.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Evaluation of exposure ▪ Medical Review ▪ Training ▪ Fit Testing