

# Fit Testing for New Ulm Medical Center

## 1. Allina Health Fit-testing Guidelines:

- All students must submit the Baseline Respirator form once. See directions in Clinician Nexus requirements. Send **ONLY** to the email address listed on the form. Do not send other fit-testing questions to that email.
- Confirm that your student experience does or does not require fit-testing. [See #2 below.](#)
- Fit-testing is required every 12 months at Allina Health. If you have not been fit-tested at Allina within 12 months of the rotation start date, or your rotation extends beyond when the 12-month expiration, you must create a plan to be fit-tested to be compliant. If fit-testing is:
  - ❖ Not needed for the experience, which is “the plan.” The requirement may be marked complete.
  - ❖ Required, when it has been scheduled at Allina Health, which is “the plan.” The student may mark the requirement in Clinician Nexus as complete. Follow [directions in #4 below.](#)
  - ❖ Required, Allina will accept a copy of fit testing documentation from a non-Allina site provided the following requirements are met:
    - i. Fit-testing was conducted in a way that met OSHA requirements (qualitative or quantitative test method).
    - ii. Results of the fit-testing are not more than 12 months old.
      - i. Student was fit-tested to an Allina approved respirator model (1870+, 1860 or 1860S)
      - ii. The requirement may not be marked as complete until the documentation has been confirmed by the school coordinator as meeting the requirement.
- At the clinical site, students are expected to wear the N95 respirator to which they were fit-tested.

## 2. Many students will be required to undergo fit-testing for N95 respirators.

- Fit testing is not required for: Sterile Processing, Administrative, Project, or fully virtual students. As there is no patient contact.
- Fit-testing is required for the following:
  - ❖ Nursing students
  - ❖ Student Registered Nurse Anesthetists (SRNA)
  - ❖ Respiratory Therapy students
  - ❖ Surgical Technician students
  - ❖ Nurse Practitioner, Physician Assistant and Medical students
  - ❖ Paramedic and EMT students
  - ❖ All student disciplines in the ICU, OR, or ED involving patient contact.
- a. If not specified above:
  - ❖ If in question, school should confirm with the site safety lead and the unit leader.
  - ❖ The student will need to follow the directions from their faculty, unit leadership or site safety lead.
  - ❖ The need is determined by site safety leads in collaboration with department leaders for students with potential for direct patient contact (e.g., Radiology and Cardiovascular Diagnostic students, Social Work, Rehab: Physical Therapy, Occupational Therapy, Speech Therapy students, etc.)
  - ❖ All Courage Kenny Rehab Institute students (except hospital inpatient nursing units) will be fit-tested at the beginning of the rotation, if needed. No advanced scheduling is required.

3. Students needing to be fit-tested at Allina Health must review the following:

- Complete Respirator Questionnaire and submit to [sniocchealth@allina.com](mailto:sniocchealth@allina.com) at least a week prior to fit-testing.
- Expect to spend 30 – 60 minutes.
- **Do not:**
  - Be late. Arrive 5-10 minutes before start time of session. Those arriving late will need to reschedule.
  - Eat, drink or chew gum for at least 30 minutes prior to testing.
  - Attend fit testing with facial hair growth. Facial hair will interfere with fit testing. Contact site safety lead for directions if you are not able/willing to shave.
  - Wear facial make-up.

4. Follow the steps below to schedule fit testing at Allina Health:

- See scheduling information below.
- If in doubt, contact site safety lead for assistance with determining fit-testing is need.

Site	Site Safety Lead
New Ulm Medical Center	<a href="mailto:Courtney.Kuehn@allina.com">Courtney.Kuehn@allina.com</a>