

## **Proceed With Caution: N-95 Respirators**

In this time of crisis, the need to obtain jobsite safety supplies is in high demand. Unfortunately, counterfeit N-95 respirators have been marketed; however, they do not meet the mandatory requirements.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued interim enforcement guidance to help combat the supply shortage of disposable N-95 filtering face piece respirators, [click here](#).

The N-95 respirator needs to meet the requirements of 42 CFR Part 84 Respiratory Protection Devices. N-95s are required to have two straps so the respirator cannot pivot on the worker's face while worn. If it cannot be kept snug around the seal of the face, gaps will occur with facial movements that will break the seal and lead to potential exposure. To review the standard requirements and other approved characteristics, [click here](#).

We encourage those purchasing N-95 respirators to use the NIOSH website listing of approved manufacturers, [click here](#). Please be cautious of companies stating they have N-95 respirators/masks or promoting a manufacturer not listed.

If you have questions, the BX of Central Ohio is working remotely and happy to assist, contact Rosie Leuby at [rleuby@bx.org](mailto:rleuby@bx.org).