

## Iowa Extension Respirator Train-the-Trainer Fit Testing Workshops: Follow-up Fit Testing Strategy Proposal

---

Congratulations on completing the respirator fit test training! Services to fit-test Iowa farmers and farm workers for their respirators are *extremely* limited. In 2022, surveys of Midwest farmers revealed that 20% of farmers would prefer to obtain fit-testing services in extension offices ([ref](#)).

The Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health would like to offer students who have completed this 2024 training their own fit-testing kit (one per extension office): if you are willing to conduct fit testing in your community and give us feedback on how well the project went. These kits cost anywhere from \$160 to 400 or more, depending on vendor and availability, and we would like to offset your costs for conducting this service to get you started.

To obtain the fit testing kit, *prepare a brief strategy* that describes how you intend to structure a fit-testing program in your region. This strategy can be *brief* but needs to identify the following: Administrative (to coordinate communication):

- Name of person and job title leading fit testing effort (to receive the kit)
- Mailing address, email and phone number
- Additional trained persons who will assist in the project

Fit Testing Plan: Provide a narrative that addresses these questions

- Where do you intend to conduct fit testing for your community?
- How many fit tests are you targeting? When / in what forum?
- Are you planning on providing respirators or does the public need to bring in their own? If you are providing, do you have funds to support this cost?
- How do you plan to advertise this service?
- Are you planning to charge for this service for your initial testing program? If so, describe.

Additional Commitments:

- Provide assurances from your supervisor that this activity is supported
- We will ask you to complete a short survey *six months after your receipt of the kit* to assess the impact of your efforts. Questions will include: How many persons were fit-tested? What was the overall pass rate? What were the most common type of respirators that you fit tested? Discuss the impact of fees you assessed to complete the test. What additional information would have helped you in this process?

Please submit your strategy to GPCAH **by December 1, 2024**, via email (to [cph-greatplainscenter@uiowa.edu](mailto:cph-greatplainscenter@uiowa.edu)), using the subject line “Respirator Fit Test Kit”. We will review your proposal and send kits through the mail to your organization.

At any time, if you have questions regarding the fit testing process, please contact Renee Anthony at GPCAH ([renee-anthony@uiowa.edu](mailto:renee-anthony@uiowa.edu)) or Carolyn Sheridan ([carolynsheridan@aghealthandsafety.com](mailto:carolynsheridan@aghealthandsafety.com)).