

On-Line Respirator Medical Clearance

Fast, convenient, and at a fraction of the typical cost

Is Respirator Medical Clearance Required?

Yes. This service is designed to meet the OSHA respiratory protection standard requirements for medical clearance of respirator wearers specified in 29 CFR 1910.134. Any employee required to wear respiratory protection must be medically cleared before using the respirator and before fit testing is conducted. Medical clearance is not medical surveillance. This service is designed to provide fast, consistent, and reliable medical clearance at a fraction of the typical cost with improved record-keeping capabilities.

Fast and Convenient:

On-line medical clearance is fast and available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. For corporate clients, medical clearance letters for healthy subjects can be printed at your site within minutes of completing the questionnaire.

Developed by Experts:

This on-line version of the OSHA respirator medical clearance questionnaire includes all of the original questions and the advantage of additional questions and computer logic to more accurately triage positive responses. After years of development and thousands of medical clearances, our breakout questions allow healthy workers to be cleared quickly. No need to wait long times for follow-up questions by a health care provider, our computer logic does this immediately. No waiting saves valuable employee time. Computer logic also helps identify fictitious responses that may occur with traditional paper questionnaires.

Experts in respiratory protection and occupational medicine from the University of Cincinnati and the University of Texas developed our breakout questions and

computer logic. This approach is superior to the OSHA questionnaire alone.

Cleared by Experts:

With on-line medical clearance you don't need to worry about the medical qualifications and/or experience of the person responsible for reviewing the questionnaire. Nor do you need to worry about their ability to appropriately respond to positive responses. With on-line medical clearance, all significant positive responses are reviewed by physicians with specialized training in occupational medicine. You get access to world experts at a fraction of the cost.

Economical:

Save both time and money. There is no need to call a doctor's office to make an appointment or wait to be seen. Likewise, you don't lose valuable employee time traveling to and from the doctor's office.

Automatic Notification:

Nearly all healthy workers are cleared within minutes. In those cases where our special breakout questions can't resolve a medical concern, an experienced occupational medicine physician will review the results and determine what course of action may be needed. In some cases, a simple phone call may resolve the problem. In other cases, additional testing and/or evaluation may be needed by a local provider. Once the answer is obtained, a final decision is then made. Whichever the case, this process is fast, accurate, and reliable.

Free Record Keeping and Tracking Features:

With a click of a button, respirator program administrators can quickly and easily identify employees who have completed the questionnaire, their current status (pending, cleared, etc.) and other valuable record keeping information. You can view or print a clearance letter at anytime, 24 hours a day. Find letters quickly with our special sorting feature which allows you to sort letters by name or date. Track the progress of any employee at any time. These features simplify record keeping, eliminate storage of hard copies, save you time

and money. Record keeping features are included at no additional cost.

How Does On-line Clearance Work?

- 1) An employer (corporate account) or individual registers for our service and the appropriate account is activated.
- 2) A unique user name and password is assigned.
- 3) Employee logs in and completes the on-line questionnaire.
- 4) Questionnaire is reviewed.
- 5) If no medical problem is detected, a clearance letter with physician signature is generated within minutes and delivered electronically (this time table applies only to corporate accounts with a designated program administrator).

If a medical problem is identified, the questionnaire is flagged as "pending" and undergoes additional medical evaluation by one of our physicians. If the physician is able to resolve why the questionnaire status was initially flagged as "pending", he/she may change the status to "cleared", with or without restrictions and a medical clearance letter is electronically generated. If the problem cannot be remotely resolved, additional information and/or testing may be necessary. Any additional testing and/or services necessary to resolve a pending questionnaire is considered a "referral". Referrals now become the responsibility of the employer and the electronic questionnaire status is completed. In these cases, the individual may need to be seen by a specialist, such as a cardiologist and/or the employee's personal physician to make a final decision. See conditions on the next page that most likely trigger a referral letter.

Is the Information Secure?

The latest technology is used in conjunction with a secure server, similar to the technology used by the banking industry.

Can I Use This Service for All Respirator Wearers?

No. On-line respirator medical clearance is not designed for persons who need to wear an SCBA (other than for escape), enter confined spaces, work in highly toxic IDLH atmospheres, fire-fighting, or participate in very strenuous work activities such as rescue. We believe people who wear respirator protection for these activities should be seen in-person. On-line medical clearance is designed for commonly used respirators that are not worn in stressful environments. Respirator medical clearance evaluations are not a substitute for placement or fitness-for-duty and assumes the employee has already been found to be physically qualified to perform their job.

Is On-line Clearance Good for All Employees?

No. The on-line approach is great for healthy workers. However, employees with significant lung and/or heart problems should consider a more traditional approach (i.e., visit to a health care professional). In addition, this process is not designed or intended to identify if an individual is at risk for working with specific contaminants. The purpose of respirator medical clearance is to determine if a given individual can safely wear the respirator. It does not identify if a chemical causes a specific medical problem.

What Medical Conditions Most Likely Trigger a Referral?

Persons that have heart problems are most likely not to be cleared. While our additional triage questions can resolve many positive responses from the standard OSHA questionnaire, some are not resolved and require a referral to a medical professional who can provide a face-to-face evaluation. Conditions most likely to trigger a referral are unexplained angina, heart abnormalities, unexplained chest pain, and poorly controlled high blood pressure.

Fees:

Corporate accounts pre-pay for any number of questionnaires at a **discounted** rate of **\$32** each (minimum of 10). Any quantity beyond 10 can be pre-paid to minimize periodic invoices, saving time and paper work. To set up a corporate account, users must contact us in advance.

Non-corporate (individual) accounts are \$72 for each questionnaire submitted (no minimum).

In the event our physicians request additional testing to resolve a questionable medical matter, the costs for these tests become the responsibility of the employer. For example, assume an older worker with questionable cardiovascular health needs an EKG to resolve a pending concern. In this case the EKG is obtained by the provider of your choice (corporate health services, family physician, etc.). The results are simply sent to our office for review by our physician who makes a final determination regarding the ability to wear respiratory protection. Very few healthy workers require additional testing or services, however, the cost for additional testing is not included in our fees.

Pre-payment is necessary for account activation.

Written Respirator Program:

OSHA requires every employer to have a written respirator program and the health care professional must have a copy to review. If you don't have a written program available, please reply via e-mail with information about the employee's exposures, types of respirators to be worn, and the workload while wearing the respirator (light, medium, or heavy) along with the number of hours it will be worn per day. Send this information to info@DrMcKay.com and we will forward it to the reviewing physician.

If you need help in developing a written respirator program, you can go to the OSHA website and download the "Small Entity Compliance Guide", which provides information on how to develop a plan.

What are the differences between corporate and individual accounts?

Corporate accounts pre-pay for 10 questionnaires at a discounted rate, whereas individual accounts are ideal for just one or two people. Corporate accounts must designate an administrator, who can immediately view employee clearance letters by logging-in with their administrator password. In addition, they have access to other free resources such as identifying which employees have completed the questionnaire, questionnaire status (pending, cleared), etc. Individual account holders do not have administrator capabilities. Therefore, individual account holders cannot view clearance letters on the web. Individual account holders must notify us via email when the questionnaire is completed and wait until we reply back with the clearance letter. Individual accounts lack speed, but are ideal when only one or two persons need respirator medical clearance.

How do I Register for This Service?

Send an email to roy@drmckay.com and request a registration form. In the email identify if you wish to register as a "Corporate Client" or want to have an "Individual" questionnaire. The registration form is also used to provide payment information.

Need More Information?

If you have questions, email us at: roy@drmckay.com
Or, leave a voice mail message on 513-558-1234.

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