

KN95 Guidance: Updated CDC and OSHA Requirements

Prior to January 28, 2022 OSHA would only allow the distribution of N95 masks according to official guidance in Standard Number: 1910.134- Title: Respiratory protection. After January 28, OSHA aligned itself with CDC guidance on masks and respirators. OSHA now considers KN-95 filtering face piece respirators due to the COVID 2019 Pandemic. Though they are not NIOSH approved OSHA has adopted CDC guidance effective January 28, 2022 and consider them equivalent to N-95 (also called dust masks) as true respirators. See [Summary of Recent Changes](#). Guidance from OSHA indicates that KN95 may be distributed to those in the workplace as long as those masks/respirators meet a standard. The BYD KN95s meets the international standards for listed in the FDA's Emergency Use Authorization and have the proper markings, GB2626-2006, indicating the conformance with those international standards.

The BYD Model DG3101 [tests results](#) were that the maximum and minimum filter efficiency was 99.78% and 95.03%, respectively.

Library staff should read information about the BYD KN95 and how it [should be worn properly](#), know that there is a [difference](#) between a N95 and KN95 respirators as well as other masks options. Wearing the KN95 must be voluntary.

Library directors and/or library governance may consider having staff sign off/acknowledge they understand that they are voluntarily wearing the KN95 mask for OSHA purposes.

Marcela Peres, Director at the Lewiston Public Library, has developed a [Voluntary Use Form](#) in accordance with this guidance and guidance from their Safety Officer.