

## York University's Mask or Face Covering Protocol

All persons entering an \*indoor space on York University property are required to wear a mask or face covering in a manner that covers their mouth, nose and chin when entering the premises and for the duration of their stay, unless an exemption applies. Indoor spaces include but are not limited to classrooms, administrative buildings, offices, meeting rooms, common areas in all residences, washrooms, corridors and elevators.

### Exemptions

There are exemptions from the requirement to wear a mask or face covering. Some of the exemptions relevant to the University community include:

- children under two years of age;
- persons performing or rehearsing in a film or television production or in a concert, artistic event, theatrical performance or other performance as approved by the University;
- persons with an underlying medical condition, which inhibits their ability to wear a mask or face covering;
- persons who are unable to place or remove a mask or face covering without assistance;
- persons who are being accommodated under the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005, or persons who require accommodation in accordance with the Ontario Human Rights Code, that precludes the wearing of a mask or face covering;
- York University departments and faculties may have specific practices which fall under provincial guidelines and/or operational requirements. For any questions, please contact: [hsewb@yorku.ca](mailto:hsewb@yorku.ca).

York University community members are not required to provide proof of any of the exemptions identified above. We ask that community members exercise discretion and patience should they observe a fellow community member not wearing a mask or face covering. In these cases, concerned individuals may use these contacts:

- **Staff/faculty:** should inform their manager and Employee Well-Being (EWB) at: [ewb@yorku.ca](mailto:ewb@yorku.ca)
- **Students:** at the undergraduate and graduate level, should inform the Office of Student Community Relations (OSCR) at: [oscr@yorku.ca](mailto:oscr@yorku.ca)

Masks or face coverings may be temporarily removed while in an indoor area under the following circumstances:

- to receive services that require the removal of a mask or face covering;
- to engage in an athletic or fitness activity;
- while consuming food or drink in designated areas or as needed to take medication;
- as may be necessary for the purposes of health and safety.

*\*And outdoors whenever physical distancing of 2-meters cannot be maintained.*

Wearing a mask or face covering in the workplace is used for source control and it involves everyone in the workplace, who must place a role in containing the spread of infection to others. This requirement is in place, in addition to physical distancing which should be practiced wherever possible.

If there are individuals in the workplace that are not wearing masks due to exemptions or other reasons, additional control measures need to be implemented. Source control masks are not to be used as a substitute for physical distancing. Both control measures lower the risk and should be used together as much as possible.

Signs have been posted at the entrances to all buildings reminding community members of the need to wear a mask or face covering while indoors. Please refer to the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) located at the YU better together website.

Face coverings are not a substitute for personal protective equipment (PPE). Questions about masks, face coverings or PPE can be directed to the reporting manager, supervisor or associate dean: [oscr@yorku.ca](mailto:oscr@yorku.ca) or Health, Safety and Employee Well-Being (HSEWB) at: [hsewb@yorku.ca](mailto:hsewb@yorku.ca).

**References:**

- [COVID-19 Guidance on Masks and Face Covering Bylaw](#)
- [Health and Safety Guidelines for Returning to Campus during the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)
- [Use of Cloth Masks or Face Coverings](#)