

**From:** [Faculty of Health Science \(announce\)](#)  
**Subject:** Universal masking required at Hamilton hospitals  
**Date:** April 30, 2020 9:15:45 AM

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This message is for all faculty, staff and students of the Faculty of Health Sciences:

Hamilton Health Sciences and St. Joseph's Healthcare Hamilton have begun universal masking for everyone coming into their hospitals.

All McMaster University faculty, staff and students entering a hospital building at the staff entrance will be given one surgical mask daily to be worn at all times in the building unless in an office alone or behind a plexiglass barrier. When the mask is off, it should be stored in a plastic container you provide, and instructions for taking it on and off are here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jHuzqNyy2s0&feature=youtu.be> If you put on additional protective equipment to be in a clinical area, you will store your daily mask to wear to leave that area. In the interests of conservation of personal protective equipment, the hospitals are reminding people that masks can be reused if not damaged, deteriorated or improperly stored.

This instruction is for all hospitals or patient-care sites. It does **not** include university buildings such as the Michael G. DeGroot Centre for Learning and Discovery (MDCL), the David Braley Health Sciences Centre, nor hospital buildings without clinical care such as the David Braley Cardiac, Vascular and Stroke Research Institute on the Hamilton General site.

However, if you are travelling into a hospital from another building, for example, over the internal bridge from the MDCL to the Health Sciences Centre/McMaster Children's Hospital, you are asked to wear a mask while in the hospital building. Even a homemade one would be acceptable.

If you have questions, please contact the Faculty's corporate services at [fhscorps@mcmaster.ca](mailto:fhscorps@mcmaster.ca)