



Universal Masking Requirement

Beginning April 8, 2020, Trillium is requiring the use of cloth masks.

Why is Trillium moving to universal masking?

- We need to protect our clients and families.
- Trillium staff safety and health is important as we work together to meet health care needs.
- Research shows that many people carry the virus and have no symptoms. Masks will help stop droplets (from speaking or coughing) from spreading.

Who needs to wear masks?

All staff working on Trillium's residential or day treatment program campuses are required to wear a mask. Because visitors and non-related staff have been limited, this means anyone on campus; direct care staff, STS's, Managers, Nurses, Therapists, Dietary staff, Facilities staff, Housekeeping staff, IT, etc. Visitors are required to wear masks.

If you are working in your personal office alone, you may remove the mask, as long as it is donned prior to being around other staff or clients.

What is the process for getting a mask?

Trillium has been granted generous donations of homemade masks by volunteers all over the state. We will have clean masks available at the beginning of shifts; please take one from the "clean" bin – that one is then yours for the entire shift. At the end of your shift, return it to the "dirty" bin. Masks will be washed overnight daily and dried thoroughly, which research shows kills the virus.

If you have your own mask that you would prefer to wear, or you were issued one personally – be sure that it is washed overnight and clean for your next workday.

How is this process different for medical masking for COVID-19 positive clients?

Universal masking means that all staff on campus wear a cloth mask to minimize the spread of virus. However, if we have a client who tests positive for COVID, we will utilize our medical-grade masks when working with that client.

Will clients get masks too?

At this point, we are not requiring the use of masks by clients. However, if a client is interested in wearing one, they are welcome to use a Trillium-provided mask. Visiting family members will be required to wear one.

Are masks alone enough?

Simply put, no. We continue to ask that we all take responsibility for the safety and health of our community:

- Wash your hands upon entering a building, and then again when leaving, and multiple times throughout the day
- Clean surfaces, doorknobs, phones, walkies, and bathrooms multiple times per shift
- Follow the staff sick and return-to-work guidelines and monitor your own temperature
- Maintain a 6-foot distance between staff wherever possible
- Stay at home when not at work, practice physical distancing