



**Directive #2020-D-008**

**Subject: New Face Covering Requirements**

**From:** Governance, Corporate Safety and Security

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**Date of Issue:** 2020-08-31

**Effective Date:** 2020-09-02

**Expected Action:**

In support of G02-2020-D-005 and to further establish the requirements for face coverings, a person who is screened at a non-passenger screening, non-passenger screening vehicle or pre-board screening checkpoint, must wear a non-vented face mask that meets the definition below. In addition, Toronto Pearson has mandated the necessity for all passengers and employees to wear a non-vented mask while in the terminal, effective September 2, 2020. Failure to comply with this requirement will result in access to the airport terminal building being denied.

**Exceptions:**

Passengers and airport workers with respiratory conditions or persons with disabilities where the condition or disability renders the wearing of a face mask not feasible.

**Background and Impact:**

Reducing the spread of COVID-19 and keeping each other healthy and safe requires multiple actions, including staying home if sick, testing and tracing, proper hand and respiratory hygiene, physical distancing and use of face masks. Earlier this year, the Minister of Transport issued mandatory requirements regarding the use of face masks for airport employees at non-passenger screening-terminal (NPS-t) and non-passenger

screening - vehicle (NPS-v) checkpoints. The same requirement applies to passengers at security screening checkpoints. To help provide a safer terminal environment for all employees and passengers, Toronto Pearson began requiring the use of face masks in all terminal areas in May.

Information about measures to stop the spread of COVID-19 is constantly evolving including recent studies questioning the effectiveness of masks with exhalation valves ("vented masks"). Depending on how they are constructed, vented masks may not have consistent safety standards for filtering and may not effectively protect against the spread of respiratory droplets believed to spread COVID-19. Founded on these science-based health findings, employees and passengers will not be allowed to enter the airport terminal building with vented masks. Vented masks can be identified by the addition of a raised plastic valve, around the size of a quarter, and usually set into one side of the mask.

With information constantly evolving, coupled with frequent updates from Transport Canada, it is suggested that employees and passengers visit our website for an updated list of face masks and any changes to Transport Canada guidance.

Link: <https://www.torontopearson.com/en/healthy-airport>

***face mask** means any non-medical mask or face covering that is made of at least two layers of tightly woven material such as cotton or linen, is large enough to completely and comfortably cover a person's nose and mouth without gaping and can be secured to a person's head with ties or ear loops. For further clarification, vented masks do not meet this definition.*

Kath Hammond  
Vice President, Governance, Corporate Safety and Security