

NICU Clothing Requirements

1. Dedicated footwear must be used in the NICU/ICU. We have a limited number of Crocs dedicated to the Unit. Alternately you can use your own shoes. If you use your own, your designated NICU/ICU shoes should be washable and have never been worn in any other animal handling areas at New Bolton Center or any other animal handling location (such as other veterinary hospitals, farms, etc.) or washed since they have. You need to wear “outside” shoes when walking to the NICU/ICU (the same shoes you would wear anywhere else at New Bolton Center) and change into your “NICU/ICU” shoes or our Crocs when entering the building.
2. You should enter the NICU/ICU building through the door next to the silver garage door horse entrance. You must immediately change into your designated NICU shoes. The footwear changing station is just inside the entrance with a bench on your right and storage for outside shoes to the left. If you are faculty or staff working full time in the NICU/ICU or a final year student taking the NICU rotation, we will try to provide room in the shoe closet for your NICU shoes when you are not in the NICU (“NICU shoe” rack) and your outside shoes when you are (“outside shoe” rack). If you are a visiting veterinarian, second year student or volunteer foal sitter, you should carry your “NICU shoes” in a bag and change into them at the footwear changing station. You should place your “outside” shoes in a bag for storage in a locker in the kitchen area upstairs. Alternately you can use the provided Crocs as NICU shoes.
3. If you own a pair of scrubs, you may wear **CLEAN** scrubs from home. Please bring clothes to change into at the end of your shift.
4. If you do not have scrubs, there may be appropriately sized scrubs on the shelves near the shoe closet. If not, put on a **yellow** viewing gown, which is hanging on the shoe closet door or under the stairs, to walk into the NICU. Get a pair of scrubs from the prep room, next to the washing machine and change in a restroom. Return the yellow gown to the shoe closet door or under the stairs.
5. If you are faculty or staff working full time in the NICU/ICU or a final year student taking the NICU rotation, you can use a locker in the entrance to the ICU or NICU patient area and use the adjacent restroom to change. If you are a visiting veterinarian, second year student or volunteer foal sitter, you should use a locker upstairs, in the kitchen area. Please place your street clothes, coats, book bags and shoes if necessary in a locker. All food you bring should be stored in the upstairs kitchen refrigerator. If you bring any valuables, you can bring a lock to secure a locker, but any locks left on lockers after your NICU stay will be removed (cut off if necessary).
6. At the end of your shift, change into your street clothes. If you have your own scrubs, take them home and wash them immediately. **DO NOT** wear them around any other animals. If you are wearing NBC scrubs, please place them in a dirty laundry bin. A laundry bin should be located in each restroom.
7. Before exiting the building, change from your dedicated NICU shoes to your “outside” street shoes. If you take your dedicated shoes with you, **DO NOT** wear them in any other animal handling areas.
8. When arriving on campus, you should always go directly to the NICU. **DO NOT** visit any other barns or patient areas.
9. If you need to leave the NICU during your shift, change out of your dedicated shoes into your “outside” shoes. If you are leaving the campus to get lunch or run other errands you must change from your scrubs into your street clothing.
10. All NICU clinicians, students and staff must wear scrubs and dedicated footwear. For students or clinicians from other rotations who visit the ICU for < 1 hour, blue gowns or coveralls and Crocs can be used.