

The Benefits of being Fully Vaccinated Against COVID-19 in Ontario



COVID-19 Risk Decreases with Vaccination

Being fully vaccinated (i.e. 2 doses) in Ontario can make you 7x less likely to contract COVID-19, 25x less likely to be hospitalized, 60x less likely to be in the ICU, and 11x less likely to die from COVID-19 compared to those that are unvaccinated.^{i, ii}

Proof of COVID-19 Vaccination Grants Access

In February 2021, countries started initiating various versions of ‘Vaccine Passports’ in an effort to curb the COVID-19 pandemic. Countries like France, Israel, Denmark, and China have all seen reductions in COVID-19 infections and deaths since the start of these programs.^{iii-viii}

In September 2021, the Vaccine Passport was implemented in Ontario, following British Columbia, Quebec, and Manitoba. The Ontario government has stated that these temporary Vaccine Passports will be removed once the daily COVID-19 case rate stabilizes and the necessary reductions in hospitalizations and deaths occur.^{ix, x}



The Vaccine Passport is required for higher-risk indoor public settings in Ontario.

Individuals/settings could be subject to fines for failing to comply with the new program. These settings include:^{xi, xii}

- Indoor dining at restaurants & bars
- Nightclubs
- Meeting & event spaces (i.e. banquet halls)
- Strip clubs, bathhouses & sex clubs
- Concerts, music festivals, theatres & cinemas
- Sports/fitness facilities
- Sporting events
- Casinos, bingo halls & gaming establishments
- Racing venues (e.g., horse racing)

Additionally, top attractions in Ontario such as the CN Tower, Toronto Blue Jays, Casa Loma (in-dining only), Ripley’s Aquarium, Art Gallery of Ontario, and Ontario Science Centre require proof of vaccination for admission.^{xiii-xviii}



COVID-19 Vaccination within Long-Term Care Homes

To protect long-term care home staff and residents from COVID-19, the Ministry of Long-Term Care now requires staff, support workers, students, and volunteers to provide proof that they have received all required doses of the COVID-19 vaccine, or proof of a valid medical contraindication in order to work, train, or volunteer in a long-term care home.^{xix}



How does vaccination status affect what you are required to do if you are exposed to COVID-19?^{xx-xxii}



Fully Vaccinated

- Self-isolate if you experience symptoms
- Contact your public health authority



Unvaccinated or Partial Vaccination

- Get a COVID-19 test immediately
- Self-isolate for 10 days regardless of presence of symptoms

How does vaccination status affect what you are required to do when entering Canada after travel?^{xx-xxii}



Fully Vaccinated

- Pre-entry molecular test
- Monitor for symptoms for at least 14 days

As of **October 30, 2021**, if you are 12 years old or older, you need to be fully vaccinated and show your COVID-19 proof of vaccination in order to board:^{xxiii}

- domestic or international flights departing from airports in Canada
- VIA Rail and Rocky Mountaineer trains
- non-essential passenger vessels, such as cruise ships, on voyages of 24 hours or more departing from Canadian ports



Unvaccinated or Partial Vaccination

- Pre-entry molecular test
- On-arrival test
- Day-8 molecular test
- Quarantine plan
- Quarantine for 14 days
- Monitor and report symptoms for 14 days
- Can expect a call, and possibly a visit, from a government representative to verify that quarantine measures are being met
- If you do not comply you may face fines, tickets, and/or imprisonment

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