



## COVID-19: Vaccine Information for Post-Secondary Institutions

### Background

Vaccination is a key public health measure to ensure a safe return to campus and residences for all staff, students and faculty of post-secondary education institutions and student residences.

People who are vaccinated are less likely to get infected with COVID-19 and spread it to others. While there is a chance that people who are vaccinated may become infected with the virus, they are much less likely to experience severe illness and become hospitalized.

The following Toronto Public Health (TPH) toolkit is a summary and collection of COVID-19 vaccine resources for post-secondary education institutions and private student residences to be used as part of public health planning and policy development.

### Approved vaccines

See Toronto Public Health's [COVID-19 vaccine eligibility & doses](#).

### Vaccines received outside of Canada/Ontario

Individuals who live in Toronto and received a first or second dose outside Ontario are encouraged to [document their vaccine](#) so it can be uploaded to the provincial database and to review [information for people who received a vaccine outside Ontario](#) to determine if an additional dose is needed.

### Resources:

[COVID-19 Recommendations for those vaccinated with vaccines not authorized by Health Canada for those staying in Canada to live, work or study](#) (Public Health Agency of Canada)  
[COVID-19 Guidance for Individuals Vaccinated outside Ontario/Canada](#) (Ministry of Health)

### Establishing a vaccination policy for post-secondary institutions

Assess your setting's risk of transmission by considering the following:

- Does your community have a high vaccination rate?
- Are staff and students required to be in close contact with others?
- How long and how often are staff and students in close contact with others?
- Does your setting have physical barriers when staff and students cannot keep distance from each other, good ventilation and personal protective equipment (PPE) to protect workers?



- Do you have staff, students, or faculty who may be at risk for severe illness from COVID-19? Some people may have reduced immunity due to age, pre-existing health conditions or medical treatments.
- Is your setting able to offer alternative work for people who require accommodation?
- How will your setting accommodate people who test positive and need supports?

See Toronto Public Health's [COVID-19 vaccine information for employers](#) for more information.

## **Strategies to encourage vaccine uptake**

Post-secondary institutions can encourage staff and students to get vaccinated and can support increased vaccination uptake with a few simple steps:

- Lead by example and get fully vaccinated.
- Share your reasons for getting the vaccine.
- Consider recruiting vaccine champions to help staff and students understand the benefits of getting vaccinated.
- Post information about nearby vaccination clinics in common areas.
- Offer flexible work hours, or paid time off for employees to go get vaccinated.
- Consider using incentives for voluntary disclosure of vaccination status.

## **Planning vaccination clinics on campus**

Post-secondary institutions are encouraged to engage with Toronto Public Health to promote vaccination and establish vaccination clinics on campus.

Individuals looking to get immunized can visit the City of Toronto [COVID-19: Where to Get Vaccinated](#) website for more information including on vaccine eligibility, how to access their vaccine, and more.

Institutions seeking to partner with Toronto Public Health for onsite COVID-19 vaccination clinics in their student residences and on-campus are invited to complete a short survey. TPH staff will call or email you within three business days to confirm the details of your request and clarify any additional information required.

[Mobile Clinic Request Intake Form](#)

## **Vaccination resources for post-secondary institutions**

### **Approved COVID-19 Vaccines**

Health Canada

Webpage providing information on COVID-19 vaccines, including approved vaccines, types of vaccines and on-going safety monitoring.

### **COVID-19 and Ontario's Human Rights Code – Questions and Answers**



Ontario Human Rights Commission

Provides answers to common questions regarding human rights and obligations during the COVID-19 pandemic, covering the rights and responsibilities of employers and employees, tenants and landlords, as well as residential institutions.

### **COVID-19 Guidance for Individuals Vaccinated outside of Ontario/Canada**

Ministry of Health

Guidance document providing health care providers and public health units with approaches for individuals who have received COVID-19 vaccination outside of Ontario or Canada.

### **COVID-19 Guidance for Post-Secondary Institutions**

Toronto Public Health

Guidance document providing recommended guidelines to reduce the spread of COVID-19 in post-secondary institutions.

### **COVID-19 Vaccine Information Sheet**

Ministry of Health

Summary document providing basic information only on COVID-19 vaccines.

### **COVID-19: Vaccine Clinic Locations**

Toronto Public Health

Website providing information and locations for all vaccine clinics including City-run immunization clinics, hospital immunization clinics and pharmacies using location or address.

### **COVID-19: Vaccine Resources**

City of Toronto

Webpage providing vaccine-related posters, graphics and other resources such as videos in multiple languages to help share messages about the immunization program.

### **COVID-19: Vaccines**

City of Toronto

Webpage providing information on how to get vaccinated in Toronto.

### **Postsecondary Education Health Measures Framework for Fall 2021**

Ministry of Colleges and Universities

Framework that provides guidance to the post-secondary sector to support health and safety of students, faculty and staff for all on-campus and in-person activities.

### **Q&A for Health Care Providers on Mixed COVID-19 mRNA Vaccine Schedules**

Ministry of Health



Webpage providing basic information on the rationale and process of mixed COVID-19 mRNA vaccine schedules.

**National Advisory Committee on Immunization (NACI): Statements and publications**

Webpage providing NACI's independent advice and recommendations based upon the best current available scientific knowledge on the use of COVID-19 vaccines.

**Status of COVID-19 Vaccines within WHO EUL/PQ evaluation process**

World Health Organization

Chart summarizing the WHO Emergency Use List for approved and pending COVID-19 vaccines.

**Vaccines for COVID-19**

Public Health Agency of Canada

Webpage summarizing the review of authorized COVID-19 vaccines in Canada.

**COVID-19 Vaccine Information for Employers**

Toronto Public Health

Webpage providing COVID-19 vaccine information for employers.