

MANDATORY COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY

S-00

DATE OF CURRENT REVISION OR CREATION- SEPT 2021

At OCHT we believe that the health of our community comes first. Therefore as of September 7, 2021, anyone at the college for any reason must be fully vaccinated.

The COVID-19 vaccines have been rigorously tested during their development and carefully reviewed by Health Canada experts. Only vaccines that are proven to be safe, effective and of high quality are authorized for use in Canada

As a result of the recent strong recommendation of the Council of Ontario Medical Officers of Health (COMOH), which represents all 34 public health units across the Province, OCHT, along with all post-secondary institutions in Ontario, will be requiring mandatory vaccination against COVID-19 for all individuals (students, staff, faculty, contractors, and visitors) involved in any in-person activities both on- and off-campus.

In keeping with our current efforts, we will continue to do everything we can to stop the spread of COVID-19 and its highly dangerous variants.

We all share this responsibility. We are asking our students, faculty, staff, and visitors to play an essential role in keeping ourselves, other members of the OCHT family, and the OCHT community at large safe and healthy.

FOR THE OCHT COMMUNITY

It is mandatory that everyone in the OCHT community – students, faculty, and staff – verify their vaccination status by September 6, 2021, at 11:59 p.m. EST. by sending via email, a Covid-19 vaccination “receipt” for their second dose. Vaccination receipts are available for download at: [Download Vaccination Receipts](#)

FOR VISITORS

Anyone visiting OCHT for any reason, including guest instructors, guest speakers, student clinic patients, and other visitors, will also be required to verify their vaccination status, by emailing vaccination receipts to reception@ocht.ca or via paper copy presented with photo ID. Individuals who cannot receive the vaccine due to medical exemptions will be permitted entry with a doctor’s note until recognized medical exemptions can be integrated as part of a digital vaccine certificate. Children who are 11 years of age and younger and unable to be vaccinated will also be exempted from these requirements.

NON-VACCINATED OR PARTIALLY VACCINATED INDIVIDUALS

Individuals (OCHT Community or Visitors), not fully vaccinated prior to September 7, 2021, will have to undergo Covid-19 Rapid Testing on a weekly basis.

Note: An individual is deemed “fully vaccinated” 14 days following their second vaccine dose.

COVID-19 RAPID TESTING

Testing will NOT be required for individuals considered fully vaccinated.

As of September 7, 2021, the following individuals are REQUIRED to submit to regular antigen point of care Rapid Testing for COVID-19 and demonstrate a negative result, once per 7 days.

- (1) Any OCHT community member or visitor with an approved accommodation (medical or religious)
- (2) Any OCHT community member or visitor waiting for confirmation that their accommodation has been approved
- (3) Any community member or visitor partially vaccinated awaiting their second dose
- (4) Any community member that objects to the vaccine for personal reasons

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COVID-19 TESTING PROTOCOL

Testing is conducted at the College. Participants must consent to the disclosure of test results to Mary Ellen Logan, the Director of Academics. Testing information will be kept confidential in accordance with applicable privacy laws.

If an individual tests positive for Covid-19, they must immediately leave the building and follow appropriate public health protocols.

For students, testing will be offered only at specific times. If a student does not show up for testing, they will not be permitted into class that day or until the next testing opportunity.

For instructors, other staff members, and clinic patients, testing will be conducted at various times as pre-arranged with front desk staff via email at reception@ocht.ca

FOLLOWING VACCINE CONFIRMATION

After individuals have received confirmation from OCHT that their Vaccination status has been registered, they will still be expected to strictly comply with all protocols issued by Ontario Public Health, including wearing a mask, and washing hands frequently. These individuals may be required to follow additional protocols or face other restrictions while at the college.

Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated individuals will not be permitted to use the student lounge, gym, or showers.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Accommodations will only be considered for medical grounds or religious grounds recognized by the Ontario Human Rights Code. After an exemption has been approved, the individual will still require weekly testing because they are unvaccinated.

SEMINARS

Ontario College of Health & Technology will require proof of the completion of a virtual educational session about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination if any employees, staff, contractors, volunteers or students have decided to decline the COVID-19 vaccination for any reason other than a medical reason.

Proof of completion of this session will be in the form of an attestation signed by the individual.

This educational session will be comprised of a series of videos created by Health Canada, and will cover the following topics:

- (1) How COVID-19 vaccines work
- (2) Vaccine safety related to the development of the COVID-19 vaccines;
- (3) The benefits of vaccination against COVID-19;
- (4) Risks of not being vaccinated against COVID-19; and
- (5) Possible side effects of COVID-19 vaccination.

FINAL DATE FOR PROOF OF VACCINATION

All students must provide proof they are Fully Vaccinated, have a Medical Exemption or have a Religious Exemption on or before January 1, 2022 or they will no longer be able to attend classes on Campus.

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TIMING

INDIVIDUALS ONLY NEED TO PROVIDE PROOF OF VACCINATION OR SUBMIT A REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION ONCE. THIS MUST BE DONE WELL IN ADVANCE OF THE FIRST VISIT TO THE COLLEGE AFTER SEPTEMBER 7, 2021.

PROOF OF VACCINATION AND/OR EXEMPTION REQUESTS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED UPON ARRIVAL. THIS MUST BE DONE BEFORE ARRIVING AT THE COLLEGE.

ORGANIZATION'S OBLIGATION TO REPORT

Ontario College of Health & Technology must collect, maintain, and disclose statistical (non-identifiable) information and report it to the Ministry of Colleges and Universities on a monthly basis as follows:

The number of individuals that provided proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19;

The number of Individuals that provided a documented medical/religious reason for not being fully vaccinated against COVID-19;

The number of individuals that completed an educational session about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination

The total number of the Covered Organization's Required Individuals to whom these Instructions apply.