

COLUMBIA COLLEGE CALGARY COVID-19 STUDENT / VOLUNTEER / GUEST VACCINATION POLICY

Purpose of this Policy

Columbia College is committed to taking all necessary steps to maintain a safe and healthy work environment for all of its employees, students and other community members attending Columbia College or interacting with Columbia College personnel.

The [Alberta Government](#) has stated that "[i]mmunization is one of the most important public health measures used to protect the health of Albertans." Various health organizations, including the World Health Organization, have deemed vaccines to be [safe and effective](#). It is clear that vaccines are the safest and most effective method of limiting the spread of COVID-19 (including known variants) and preventing severe symptoms and hospitalizations connected to COVID-19. Governmental (federal and provincial) and public health authorities have strongly recommended that all people get fully vaccinated as soon as possible.

The nature of Columbia College's operations are such that many Columbia College employees, students, volunteers and other personnel are required to work in regular close contact with others.

Accordingly, as part of our commitment to maintaining a safe and healthy work environment, Columbia College is implementing this COVID-19 student and volunteer vaccination policy, in an effort to reduce the risk of transmission, serious illness and death from COVID-19.

Applicability of this Policy

This Policy will apply to all Columbia College Students, Volunteers and College Guests.

A student does not need to verify their vaccination if all of the below apply:

- The student is registered into a program or course (for part-time and/or continuing education courses), that require no physical contact with the College campus as a part of the regular delivery expectations for that program or course.
- The student is registered into a program or course that requires no physical contact with a mandatory practicum or work experience component as a part of successfully completing the program or course.

A volunteer does not need to verify their vaccination if all of the below apply:

- The volunteer activities require no physical contact with the College campus as a part of the regular delivery of the volunteer activities.
- The volunteer activities require no physical contact with a mandatory practicum site or work experience site as part of successfully completing the program or course.

Note: all students and volunteers who have not verified their vaccination will be considered a guest when a student or volunteer who has been determined that they do not need to be vaccinated are considered a College Guest.

College Guests

Effective November 1st, 2021 all guests visiting Columbia College will be required to show proof of vaccination in order to enter any of Columbia College's buildings. Guests may be permitted to enter a building for the purpose of verifying their vaccination status if the vaccination assessment area is located inside.

Definition of Vaccination Status

In this Policy, the following terms shall have the following meanings:

"fully vaccinated" means Columbia College Students or Volunteers will be considered fully vaccinated if they are at least 14 days from having received:

- Two doses of the AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD, Pfizer or Moderna vaccine, or any combination of such vaccines; or
- One dose of the Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) vaccine; or
- Has received any other COVID-19 vaccine that may be approved by Health Canada from time to time.

"COVID-19 test" means a Health Canada approved rapid screening test or a lab based PCR test (approved by either Health Canada or the lab accreditation body of the jurisdiction in which the test is performed) which:

- (a) the Columbia College Student or Volunteer has taken within the last 72 hours;
- (b) clearly outlines the laboratory that completed the test (if applicable), the type of test, the time of sample collection, and a clear indication of a negative result; and
- (c) is not sourced from the Alberta Health Services public COVID-19 testing system.

Effective November 15, 2021, all students and volunteers at Columbia College should have declared their COVID 19 vaccination status by completing the [Student Declaration of Vaccination Form](#) or the [Volunteer Declaration of Vaccination Form](#). Prior to December 31st, inclusive, Columbia College Students and Volunteers who have not provided proof that they are fully vaccinated, and will be physically on campus, will be subject to mandatory COVID-19 testing on a twice per week basis (or more frequent basis, as may be determined by Columbia College, should COVID-19 case-loads and other relevant factors warrant). Columbia College Students and Volunteers are responsible for arranging and paying for any required COVID-19 test.

Effective January 1, 2022, all Columbia College Students and Volunteers are required to provide confirmation to Columbia College that they are fully vaccinated, and subject to the accommodation measures set out below, will no longer have the option of submitting to COVID-19 testing as a condition of enrolment, or providing volunteer services. Subject to the accommodation measures set out below, Columbia College Students and Volunteers who fail or refuse to provide confirmation to Columbia College of full vaccination status by January 1, 2022 will have to step out of their program and be withdrawn; or in the case of a volunteer be required to stop providing volunteer services.

Subject to the accommodation measures set out below, any new enrolments, new volunteers starting between November 15 and December 31, 2021, inclusive, will be required to provide confirmation to Columbia College that they are fully vaccinated or will be subject to mandatory COVID-19 testing requirements as set out above, as a condition of participating at events that are held on campus. Effective January 1, 2022, any new students and volunteers will be required to provide confirmation to Columbia College that they are fully vaccinated as a

condition of their admission and/or volunteer requirements, subject to the accommodation measures set out below.

Proof of Vaccination

Columbia College Students, Volunteers and Guests will be required to provide vaccination records from a public health authority confirming the vaccine(s) received and the date of vaccination(s) to Columbia College's using the [Student Declaration of Vaccination Form](#) or the [Volunteer Declaration of Vaccination Form](#).

Columbia College Students, Volunteers and Guests who received their vaccinations in Alberta can obtain and provide proof of vaccinations records using <https://myhealth.alberta.ca/myhealthrecords> or <https://covidrecords.alberta.ca>

Privacy

All vaccination records will be kept confidential and protected by Columbia College, and will be used only for the purpose of enforcing this Policy. Columbia College will abide by all applicable privacy legislation with respect to the collection, use and disclosure of vaccine records.

Accommodations

Columbia College Students and Volunteers who are not able to receive a vaccination for valid medical or religious reasons, or based on any other protected ground as set out in the *Alberta Human Rights Act*, will be accommodated by Columbia College to the point of undue hardship. It is the responsibility of Columbia College Students and Volunteers who are unable to receive a vaccination for any of the reasons set out above to request an accommodation from Columbia College. Any Columbia College Student or Volunteer seeking an accommodation will be required to cooperate with Columbia College with respect to determining reasonable accommodation measures.

Failure to Comply with this Policy

Subject to the accommodation measures set out above, Columbia College Students or Volunteers who fail to comply with this Policy will be required to withdraw from their program or have their volunteer services terminated.

Amendments/Modifications to this Policy

Columbia College reserves the right to unilaterally modify or amend this Policy from time to time, based on government and health authority directives, recommendations and restrictions, developments in the COVID-19 pandemic and other relevant factors. Columbia College will provide as much advance notice as possible to Columbia College Students, Volunteers and Guests of any modifications or amendments to this Policy.

Further Information

Columbia College Students, Volunteers and Guests are encouraged to visit the Government of Canada website [COVID-19 Vaccines: Authorized vaccines - Canada.ca](https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/vaccines-and-immunization/authorized-vaccines.html) for more information regarding Health Canada approved vaccines.

Further information regarding vaccines from the Government of Alberta, including information regarding the safety of vaccines, can visit [COVID-19 vaccines and records | Alberta.ca](https://www.alberta.ca/covid-19-vaccines-and-records.aspx) Columbia College strongly encourages any Columbia College Students and Volunteers who have not already been fully vaccinated to speak with their physician to discuss COVID vaccinations. If any Columbia College Students and Volunteers do not have access to a physician, Columbia College would be happy to assist such Columbia College Student or Volunteer in connecting with a physician.

Other Precautions

Columbia College Students, Volunteers and Guests are required to abide by all mask mandates and other measures that may be implemented by Columbia College from time to time to reduce the risk of transmission, serious illness and death from COVID-19.