



Vaccination Policy

Updated: 02/25/2022

FIRST Canada strongly recommends that all participants who are both eligible and able, get vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. COVID-19 vaccines have been reviewed by Health Canada experts. According to public health information, COVID-19 vaccines are a safe method of giving individuals added protection against the effects of the COVID-19 virus and its variants and are an additional measure for limiting the risk of contracting and spreading the virus.

Policy

Throughout the pandemic we have placed the health and safety of everyone in the *FIRST* community at the forefront of our planning. Ensuring high rates of vaccination remains one of the most important ways we can protect public health. The Delta and Omicron variants, along with rising infection rates in the broader community, have informed **the decision by *FIRST* Canada to institute a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy for all attendees of any in-person indoor *FIRST* Canada event held in Ontario.** Staff, Volunteers, Contractors, Teachers, Mentors, Students and any other attendees who are eligible and able to receive the COVID-19 vaccine must present proof of full vaccination, in order to attend an event. Medical exemptions can be granted as indicated below. Specific venues may have more stringent requirements, which will be published on our website.

Vaccine Types

As per the [Province](#), attendees are considered fully vaccinated if they have received:

- The full series of a COVID-19 vaccine authorized by Health Canada, or any combination of such vaccines (two doses of Moderna, Pfizer-BioNTech, AstraZeneca, including COVISHIELD) in any combination or one dose of Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)
- One or two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health followed by one dose of a COVID-19 mRNA vaccine authorized by Health Canada
- Three doses of a COVID-19 vaccine not authorized by Health Canada
- Their final dose of the COVID-19 at least 14 days before providing the proof of being fully vaccinated.

Medical Exemptions

Medical exemptions must be verified with an [enhanced vaccination certificate](#) with official QR code. This is the same process as presenting proof of vaccination.

Temporary Access Exemption

Those who are entering the event temporarily, for the purposes of picking up or dropping off items or individuals, will not need to show proof of vaccination. However, their access will be restricted to the primary entrance of the event, and only for long enough to pick up or drop off. (e.g. No access to pits, playing areas, etc.)

Ineligible Individuals

Those who are not vaccinated because they are ineligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccination due to age, will not be able to attend *FIRST* Canada in-person indoor events at this time. As such, events in the *FIRST* programs targeted to those younger age groups will remain virtual at this time.

Format of Proof of Vaccination

Proof of vaccination must be provided by either a paper or electronic version of your enhanced vaccine certificate with a QR code.

Identification

Proof of identification must also be provided to verify your identity against your proof of vaccination. **Photo ID is not required.** Your ID must include:

- Name
- Date of Birth

Examples of valid ID include (but are not limited to)

- Birth certificate, driver's license, health card, government issued ID card
- Photocopies or digital copies on a phone are acceptable