

# News Release

Town of Oakville



OAKVILLE

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## Protecting staff and residents: Town to implement vaccination certificate program

*Proof of vaccination for anyone 12 and older required at recreation and culture facilities and Town Hall starting September 22*

### Oakville, September 21, 2021 – For immediate release

In accordance with provincial requirements, the Town of Oakville is implementing a proof of vaccination program at town facilities. Starting September 22, the town's program will require that anyone 12 years of age or older provide proof of identification and proof of full COVID-19 vaccination (or medical exemption) prior to entering or accessing any of the following:

- Indoor use of recreation and culture facilities, including [arenas](#), [community centres](#), pools, senior centres, the Oakville Centre for the Performing Arts, and Oakville Museum at Erchless Estate
- ServiceOakville counter at Town Hall

The [provincial regulation](#) requires that access to recreation and culture facilities is limited to individuals who are fully vaccinated, with some exemptions. These regulations are a baseline requirement and organizations have the authority to go beyond these requirements to strengthen regulations in the interest of public and worker safety.

The town has taken steps to provide additional protection to the community and its employees by requiring anyone 12 years of age or older, including those aged 12-17, to be fully vaccinated to enter town recreation and culture facilities and Town Hall, regardless of their purpose for attending.

This decision was made in consultation with the town's indoor sport user groups while aligning with the town's COVID-19 vaccination policy and public health recommendations that Ontarians aged 12 and older be vaccinated.

Individuals who do not show proof of full vaccination will not be permitted to enter or participate in indoor programming at impacted facilities unless they are under 12 years of age or have a medical exemption (the individual must show a doctor's note and ID to gain entry). Appointments for marriage licenses and ceremonies that have already been pre-booked will also not require proof of full vaccination, however any new appointments for marriage licences and ceremonies will be required. Learn more on our [Proof of Vaccination page](#).

Members of the public can print or download their vaccination receipt from the [provincial booking portal](#) or call the Provincial Vaccine Contact Centre at 1-833-943-3900.

Prior to entering a recreation and culture facility or other impacted town facilities, all visitors must complete a COVID-19 self-assessment and show proof of vaccination along with ID. Once indoors, all health and safety guidelines, and protocols must be followed including maintaining physical distancing and wearing a mask. Respectful behaviour is also expected towards all visitors, staff and volunteers in accordance with the town's [Rzone Procedure](#).

Residents are encouraged to visit oakville.ca to access a variety of [town services online](#). For inquiries, contact ServiceOakville at 905-845-6601 or [service@oakville.ca](mailto:service@oakville.ca).

Visit the town's [COVID-19 page](#) for further details and read the [frequently asked questions](#).

## QUOTES

“The alternative to these measures will be yet another lockdown as the fourth wave grows. The vast majority of Oakville has chosen to get vaccinated to prevent another lockdown. The town is not going to let the unvaccinated jeopardize the health and activity opportunities of the community.”

– Mayor Rob Burton

“We are 18 months into this global pandemic with a highly transmissible variant circulating in the community. This public health crisis requires extraordinary measures to keep our community safe. Implementing a mandatory COVID-19 vaccination policy will help protect the safety of our employees and members of our community who we serve.”

– Jane Clohecy, Chief Administrative Officer

## Backgrounder:

- On September 1, 2021, the Ontario Government [announced](#) the implementation of a vaccine certificate program in Ontario.
- On September 13, Oakville Town Council approved a town [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy](#) which included the development of procedures that would mandate proof of vaccination from visitors to town facilities, including program participants, contractors, tenants, rental groups, guardians accompanying children, spectators and volunteers. Proof of vaccination procedures were also developed for all town employees and Members of Council in line with Halton Region's Medical Officer of Health's [recommendation](#) to establish a COVID-19 workplace vaccination policy.

## Additional links and resources:

- [Town of Oakville Mandatory Vaccination Policy Staff Report](#)

- [Town of Oakville Policies and Procedures.](#)
- [Ontario Government Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Ontario Regulation 645/21](#)
- [Proof of Vaccination Guidance for Businesses and Organizations \(Reopening Ontario Act\)](#)

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