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General Questions

Q1. Who is required to be vaccinated in the air transportation sector?

A1. Effective November 30, 2021, all air travellers who are 12 years and 4 months of age or older flying on a domestic, transborder or international flight departing from a specified Canadian airport are required to be fully vaccinated. **A valid COVID-19 molecular test will no longer be accepted as an alternative to vaccination, unless travellers are eligible for one of the limited exceptions.**

In addition, as of November 15, 2021, all non-passengers are also required to be fully vaccinated, unless exempt. This includes:

- All non-passengers who enter restricted areas of airports (e.g., concession and hospitality workers); and
- employees of airports and other organizations who work in the Air Terminal Building, and outside the restricted area if their work activities are related to aviation.

The mandatory vaccination requirement does not apply to the non-travelling public, and employees working outside of the Air Terminal Building/Restricted Area that do not support the aviation sector such as convenience stores or entertainment facilities.

Operators of aerodromes can implement stricter requirements. Individuals who require access to an aerodrome should therefore review the aerodrome policy regarding mandatory vaccination.

The mandatory vaccination policy does not apply to international to international connecting travellers staying within the restricted area.

Personnel from military flights, aerial work (CAR subpart 702), private operators (CAR subpart 604) are excluded from the policy, unless they are required to access the restricted area of one of the specified airports.

Patients and escorts on a MEDEVAC flight are exempt from the policy as well as any emergency response personnel who require access to the restricted area while responding to an emergency

Q2. Which types of COVID-19 tests are considered molecular tests?

A2. **Examples of common COVID-19 molecular tests include PCR (polymerase chain reaction) tests, nucleic acid tests (NAT), nucleic acid amplification tests (NAATs) and reverse transcription loop-mediated isothermal amplification (RT-LAMP) tests. For a complete list of tests that are considered molecular tests, please consult the “Accepted Types of Molecular Tests” section that can be found on the following webpage: <https://travel.gc.ca/travel-covid/travel-restrictions/flying/covid-19-testing-travellers-coming-into-canada>.**

Q3. Why is private aviation (CAR subpart 604) or general aviation excluded from the vaccination mandate?

A3. The federal vaccination mandate initiative for the air sector is focused on both commercial passenger flights and those working in the airport environment. Private aviation and general

aviation do not involve commercial passengers. That being said, should a private operator require access to the aerodrome property of a specified airport listed in Schedule 2 of the *Interim Order*, they must be fully vaccinated, with very limited exceptions.

Q4. What is the definition of a “restricted area of an airport”?

A4. The restricted area of an airport is based on aviation security requirements. Each airport has slightly different restricted areas but, in general, it includes the sterile area of the air terminal building, the apron next to the terminal, the movement areas on the airside, etc. Certain companies will need to confirm with the airports where it operates if its operations are part of the restricted area.

Q5. How does the vaccination mandate apply to flight schools that operate out of airports?

A5. Flight schools are covered under CAR subpart 406, which is excluded under the policy; however, if the students or others associated with the flight school (e.g., employees, trainers, etc.) are operating on the aerodrome property of a specified airport, they would be covered under the policy for non-passengers and would be required to be vaccinated. In addition, since aerodromes may have more stringent vaccinations policies in place, these individuals are encouraged to review the aerodrome’s policy regarding mandatory vaccination.

Q6. Will the vaccine mandate apply to charter flights?

A6. Yes. Charter flights are included in the vaccine mandate, including their passengers and employees, if the flights are operated under the [Canadian Aviation Regulations](#) (CAR) subparts 700 series (excluding subparts 702) and are departing from one of the specified airports.

Q7. Why can’t domestic travellers use ArriveCAN to record their vaccination status just as international travellers?

A7. ArriveCAN is used only for travellers entering Canada from another country. All travellers, with limited exceptions, must use ArriveCAN (available as a mobile app and online) to provide mandatory travel information before and after entering Canada, including providing information to the Government of Canada about quarantine plans and contact information for post-border follow up. ArriveCAN is therefore not currently suited to use in the context of domestic or international outbound travel.

Q8. Will the mandatory vaccination requirement apply to all airports in Canada?

A8. The mandatory vaccination requirement applies to passenger flights departing from specified Canadian airports as identified Schedule 2 of the *Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19*.

Q9. Who will be enforcing the federal vaccination requirements?

A9. Transport Canada will conduct compliance activities using inspections and enforcement tools. Should regulated entities not meet the regulatory requirements it could lead to enforcement action such as Administrative Monetary Penalties.

In addition, the regulated entities will be required to ensure adherence to the requirements within their own organizations.

Q10. Do the vaccination requirements apply to prisoners that are being transported via air?

A10. Transport Canada is aware of the challenges while transporting prisoners and as such has developed a national exemption to address this situation.

Traveller Vaccination Requirements

Q1. What is the definition of a fully vaccinated person for domestic or outbound travel?

A1. To qualify as a fully vaccinated traveller within or from Canada, you must have received:

- the full series of an authorized COVID-19 vaccine, or an acceptable combination of; and
- your last dose at least 14 full days prior to the day you travel.

Effective November 30, 2021, accepted COVID-19 vaccines in Canada are the following:

- Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty, tozinameran, BNT162b2)
- Moderna (Spikevax, mRNA-1273)
- AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD (ChAdOx1-S, Vaxzevria, AZD1222)
- Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.COV2.S)
- Sinopharm (Beijing) BBIBP-CorV (Vero Cells)
- Sinovac (CoronaVac, PiCoVacc)
- Bharat Biotech (Covaxin, BBV152 A, B, C)

Government of Canada measures continue to apply, so travellers should have no signs or symptoms of COVID-19 and be prepared to wear a mask during their travel.

With respect to provincial or territorial requirements, travellers may be subject to further measures taken by provinces or territories in order to prevent the spread of COVID-19. It is the traveller's responsibility to be familiar with potential restrictions regarding your final destination point. Links to provincial and territorial COVID-19 information can be found at: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/2019-novel-coronavirus-infection/symptoms/provincial-territorial-resources-covid-19.html>.

Q2. Do I still need to wear a face mask on board an aircraft if I am fully vaccinated?

A2. Yes. All travellers—even those who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19—are still required to wear a face mask throughout their entire travel journey except for brief periods while eating, drinking, or taking oral medication, or unless otherwise exempt. Some of these exemptions include children under two years old, people who are unable to remove their mask without assistance, and people who provide a medical certificate certifying that they are unable to wear a face mask for medical reasons. Failure to comply with the *Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19* could result in a fine of up to \$5,000.

Q3. How will travellers provide confirmation of vaccination?

A3. Travellers are strongly encouraged to use the [Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination when travelling](#); however, travellers can also use a proof of vaccination credential issued by their province or territory, or from their country of vaccination so long as it is a Government of Canada-approved COVID-19 vaccine and contains all the mandatory data elements identified in the *Interim Order*. All proof of vaccinations must be provided in English or French (or a certified translation).

For more information, see: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/vaccines/life-after-vaccination/vaccine-proof.html>.

Q4. What if a proof of vaccination issued by a Province or Territory does not contain all the required data elements as per the *Interim Order*?

A4. An exemption will be in place for a limited time in order to allow air carriers to board travellers if they show proof of vaccination from their respective Province or Territory (or designated entity who issued the proof of vaccination), even if their proof of vaccination does not contain all the necessary data elements as required by the *Interim Order* (i.e., name, issuing body, type of vaccine, and date the final dose of the regimen was administered).

However, in these cases, air carriers are going to be required to report on the number of instances where a traveller showed their proof of vaccination and it did not meet the requirements set out in the *Interim Order*, what data elements were missing and the contact information for the traveller.

Q5. Who will be responsible for verifying that travellers are vaccinated?

A5. Commercial air carriers (for scheduled or charter flights) will be responsible for the verification of the vaccination status of travellers. For airports with CATSA security screening, CATSA may also be supporting the verification process.

All travellers will be responsible for demonstrating their proof of vaccination prior to boarding their flight in Canada, unless otherwise excepted. In cases where a traveller qualifies for an exception (such as a medical inability to be vaccinated, sincere religious beliefs or essential medical travel, or has obtained a domestic national interest exemption letter from Transport Canada), the traveller will need to provide their proof of exemption approved by the air carrier, as well as a valid COVID-19 molecular test result. If the traveller meets another exception per the *Interim Order* (i.e., foreign national with onward domestic travel within 24 hours, a departing foreign national, resettled refugee, accredited diplomats etc.), the traveller must demonstrate the necessary evidence as identified in the *Interim Order* and provide a valid COVID-19 molecular result.

Q6. What will the consequences be for travellers who falsify information?

A6. There will be serious consequences for travellers who falsify information. Travellers could be fined up to \$5,000 per violation under the *Aeronautics Act*.

Q7. What happens if a flight departs from an airport that is not on Schedule 2 of the *Interim Order* but is diverted to an airport that is listed on Schedule 2?

A7. Travellers who are diverted from an airport that is not on Schedule 2 of the *Interim Order* to an airport that is on Schedule 2 due to a safety-related reason such as adverse weather or an equipment malfunction will not be required to be fully vaccinated or to have a COVID-19 molecular test, as long as they board an aircraft for a flight not more than 24 hours after the arrival time of the diverted flight.

Q8. When will Canadians receive a Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination certification for international travel?

A8. The Government of Canada has collaborated with the provinces and territories to develop a standardized proof of vaccination to facilitate cross-border travel. All provinces and territories have begun issuing these credentials. Air carriers should strongly encourage travellers to download a copy of their proof of vaccination prior to travelling.

Any specific questions should be directed to the province or territory in question.

For more information, see: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/diseases/coronavirus-disease-covid-19/vaccines/life-after-vaccination/vaccine-proof.html>.

Q9. Will paper copies be accepted as proof of vaccination for domestic travel? What if the traveller is not using the Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination? Will provincial proof be accepted?

A9. Travellers can use a proof of vaccination credential issued by their province or territory, the local health facility where their vaccinations have been recorded, or from their country of vaccination, as long as it is a COVID-19 vaccine approved by the Government of Canada for the purpose of travel and contains all the mandatory data elements identified in the *Interim Order*. Both digital and paper copies will be accepted.

Where available, Canadians are strongly encouraged to use the Canadian COVID-19 proof of vaccination.

Q10. What happens if a traveller's name on their proof of identification does not match the name on the proof of vaccination?

A10. There may be circumstances in which the name on the proof of identification does not match the name on the provincial or territorial proof of vaccination. For example, in the Province of Quebec a female's name at birth may appear on the proof of vaccination, while their married name may appear on a federal identification document such as a passport. Other examples include those from remote or Indigenous communities where formal identification can be more challenging.

In these cases, the air carrier has flexibility to accept a proof of vaccination that does not perfectly match a traveller's identification documents. So long as the traveller is able to establish their vaccination credential through other means (e.g., health card or letter from indigenous community leader), air carriers will not deny boarding to the traveller.

Q11. Are international to international travellers (those transiting through Canada) required to be fully vaccinated or to provide a valid COVID-19 molecular result?

A11. International to international (ITI) travellers can proceed to another country without the requirement to be fully vaccinated or to have a COVID-19 molecular test as long as they remain within the sterile transit area of a Canadian airport and do not enter through a border entry point.

Q12. Is everyone on board a MEDEVAC flight exempt from the vaccination requirement (i.e., patients, escorts and crew)?

A12. The exemption from being fully vaccinated applies specifically to the MEDEVAC flight itself and only to the patient and approved escorts. It does not cover employees or operations pre or post flight.

Requirements for passenger vaccination or COVID-19 molecular testing applies only to commercial air services operating within or out of Canada under Subpart 1, 3, 4 or 5 of Part VII of the Canadian Aviation Regulations. Any persons working for a MEDEVAC company would be required to comply with passenger requirements if travelling on a commercial flight pre or post MEDEVAC flight (such as an airline maintenance engineer travelling as a passenger to get to their job site in Canada or departing from Canada).

MEDEVAC employees may also be required to comply with the airport policy on mandatory vaccination at any specified airport listed in Schedule 2 of the *Interim Order*. Per the *Interim Order*, aerodrome operators must establish and implement a comprehensive policy respecting mandatory COVID-19 vaccination for all relevant employees whose duties include accessing the restricted area of an airport listed in Schedule 2. As of November 15, any employees of a MEDEVAC company (i.e., non-passengers) who require access to the restricted area of a specified airport must be fully vaccinated.

Q13. Do unvaccinated individuals transported out by MEDEVAC and released from the hospital need to be vaccinated to return home?

A13. MEDEVAC patients returning home by air can seek an exemption to enable travel. Transport Canada's domestic National Interest Exemption Program will review all applications on a case-by-case basis.

More information, including the application process, is available via <https://vaccine-exemption.tc.canada.ca>

Q14. What if a traveller has two doses of non-Government of Canada accepted vaccine (e.g., Sputnik) and 1 mRNA shot? Would they be able to enter Canada and/or travel by air?

A14. No. To qualify as a fully vaccinated traveller to Canada, you must have received the full series of a vaccine – or a combination of vaccines – accepted by the Government of Canada at least 14 days prior to entering Canada. Currently, those vaccines are manufactured by Pfizer-BioNTech (Comirnaty, tozinameran, BNT162b2), Moderna (Spikevax, mRNA-1273), AstraZeneca/COVISHIELD COVISHIELD (ChAdOx1-S, Vaxzevria, AZD1222), Janssen/Johnson & Johnson (Ad26.COV2.S), Sinopharm (Covilo , BBIBP-CorV), Sinovac (CoronaVac), and Bharat Biotech (COVAXIN, BBV152).

Q15. Do travellers who are fully vaccinated need a COVID-19 pre-departure test to leave the country for less than 72 hours?

A15. Effective November 30, 2021, vaccinated Canadians and permanent residents are permitted to take short trips internationally and return to Canada without a pre-departure test if the return trip was less than 72 hours and it originated in Canada.

For those travelling by air, the time of the trip is measured from the scheduled departure time in Canada and the scheduled departure time of the return flight.

This applies to Canadian citizens and permanent residents only. All foreign nationals departing Canada will still require a COVID-19 molecular test.

Q16. Why are you removing the requirement for pre-entry testing for vaccinated individuals with right of entry to Canada who will leave and re-enter the country in under 72 hours?

A16. A pre-entry test for trips where travellers will be out of the country for less than 72 hours would most likely not detect a COVID-19 exposure that occurred in Canada, due to the incubation period of the disease being longer than 72 hours. If a traveller is exposed to COVID-19 on a short trip, a pre-entry test is unlikely to detect presence of the virus acquired abroad.

Traveller positivity will continue to be monitored through mandatory random testing at ports of entry.

Q17. Can an individual who is participating in a COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial and is not considered fully vaccinated travel?

A17. Yes, the traveller can seek an exemption to enable travel. Transport Canada's domestic National Interest Exemption Program will review applications for individuals participating in a G7 COVID-19 vaccine clinical trial on a case-by-case basis. Participation in a COVID-19 clinical trial is considered in the national interest.

More information, including the application process, is available via <https://vaccine-exemption.tc.canada.ca>

Traveller Exceptions to Being Fully Vaccinated

Q1. As of November 30, 2021, what are the alternatives for travellers who are unable to be vaccinated?

A1. Very limited exemptions will be in place for travellers who are unable to be vaccinated. Exemptions will be given to:

- Those who are medically unable to be vaccinated, which refers to specific medical conditions listed in the latest recommendation of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization
- Those travelling for essential medical services and treatment, which refer to booked appointments to get medical services that are important to saving lives and improving health outcomes

- Those who hold sincere religious beliefs, in recognition of the rights of Canadians under the [Canadian Human Rights Act](#)
- Emergency and urgent travel, including for urgent medical reasons, which are situations that need urgent evacuation such as forest fires, floods, and medical emergencies
- Other travel in the national interest, such emergency service providers or specialized essential workers under Canada's critical infrastructure sectors when no other vaccinated options exist.

For domestic and outbound travel, air carriers will administer the process for considering a traveller's medical inability to be vaccinated, sincere religious belief, travelling to access essential medical services and treatment, and emergency/urgent travel (including for urgent medical reasons).

Transport Canada will administer exemptions for other domestic and outbound travel in the national interest. In almost all cases where a traveller is granted an exemption, the traveller will need to have a valid COVID-19 molecular test, taken no more than 72 hours before boarding their flight.

Q2. What are the accepted reasons for an exception due to medical inability to be vaccinated?

A2. Based on the October 22, 2021, recommendation of the National Advisory Committee on Immunization, a traveller may qualify for a temporary exception due to medical inability to be vaccinated in order to travel within or depart Canada if they have:

1. Certified medical contraindications to full vaccination against COVID-19 with an mRNA vaccine:
 - A history of anaphylaxis after previous administration of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine (and noting that most people who experienced a severe immediate allergic reaction after a first dose of an mRNA COVID-19 vaccine can safely receive future doses of the same or another mRNA COVID-19 vaccine after consulting with an allergist or another appropriate physician); and/or
 - A confirmed allergy to polyethylene glycol (PEG), which is found in the Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines (note that if a person is allergic to tromethamine which is found in Moderna, they can receive the Pfizer-BioNTech product).
2. Medical reasons for delay of full vaccination against COVID-19:
 - A history of myocarditis/pericarditis following the first dose of an mRNA vaccine; and/or
 - An immunocompromising condition or medication that requires waiting to vaccinate when immune response can be maximized (i.e., waiting to vaccinate when immunocompromised state or medication is lower).
3. A medical condition precluding full vaccination against COVID-19 (not covered above), as briefly described by the medical physician or nurse practitioner.

Q3. How can a traveller apply for an exception from the vaccination requirement due to medical inability to be vaccinated?

A3. Travellers must submit to the air carrier a temporary exception form, signed by a licensed Canadian medical doctor or nurse practitioner. Forms will be available from the air carrier and must

be completed 21 days before their initial scheduled departure and in accordance with the air carrier's exception approval process.

The approval provided by the air carrier will be valid only for the single journey, including return trip, provided a traveller is travelling with the same air carrier throughout. A separate request is required for new trips or for boarding travel with other air carriers.

Approval for temporary exceptions for a medical inability to be vaccinated is air carrier-specific. In other words, approval by one airline does not automatically allow the traveller to connect with a different airline, or to transfer to another federally regulated transportation mode.

Travellers are required to carry the confirmation of exception and proof of the air carrier's approval with them during their travel journey. Travellers with temporary exemptions due to a medical inability to be vaccinated will require a valid COVID-19 test result before boarding.

Air carriers may verify proof of the confirmation of exception and COVID-19 test results at any time during travel (e.g., check-in, boarding, during travel, etc.). Air carriers will be responsible for denying boarding to travellers who are unvaccinated and without proof.

Where travellers board at unmanned boarding/departure points, verification may occur while en route.

False claims are an offence under the Criminal Code and false declaration could be subject to Transport Canada fines.

Air carriers must report to Transport Canada all such exceptions granted.

Q4. Will traveller's still need to apply if their province or territory issued a certificate indicating they are medically unable to be vaccinated?

A4. Yes, travellers still need to apply to their air carrier. However, a medical certificate issued by a Canadian province or territory may also be accepted in lieu of the medical doctor or nurse practitioner's signature on the exception form.

Q5. What if the traveller is a foreign national and needs to apply for an exception due to medical inability to be vaccinated?

A5. If a foreign national, currently in Canada, requires an exception for medical inability to be vaccinated, the process will be the same as for Canadian citizens and permanent residents. A medical note or letter issued by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner in a country other than Canada will not be accepted for domestic, inbounds, or outbound travel.

Until February 28, 2022, a foreign national who was allowed to enter Canada without being fully vaccinated will be allowed to board a flight to depart Canada provided they have a valid COVID-19 test within 72 hours. No exception form is needed in the case of this type of itinerary to exit Canada.

Q6. What is considered essential medical services and treatment?

A6. For the purpose of the mandatory vaccination requirement, essential medical services and treatment refers to booked appointments to receive medical services that are important to saving lives and improving health outcomes. Examples could include travel to receive cancer treatment or to attend a specialist appointment.

Q7. How can a traveller apply for an exception for essential medical services and treatment?

A7. Travellers must submit a completed exception form, including having it signed by a Canadian licensed medical doctor or nurse practitioner, to the air carrier in order to receive confirmation of a temporary exception from the mandatory vaccination requirement.

This form will be available from the air carrier by November 30, 2021 and must be completed 14 days before the initial scheduled departure and in accordance with the air carrier's exception approval process.

The approval provided by the air carrier will be valid only for the single journey, including return trip, provided a traveller is travelling with the same air carrier throughout. A separate request is required for new trips or for boarding travel with other air carriers.

Approval for temporary exceptions for essential medical care is air carrier-specific. In other words, approval by one airline does not automatically allow the traveller to connect with a different airline, or to transfer to another federally regulated transportation mode.

Travellers are required to carry the confirmation of exception and proof of the air carrier's approval with them during their travel journey. Travellers with temporary exceptions due to essential medical services and treatment will require a valid COVID-19 test result before boarding.

Air carriers may verify proof of the confirmation of exception and COVID-19 test results at any time during travel (e.g., check-in, boarding, during travel, etc.). Air carriers will be responsible for denying boarding to travellers who are unvaccinated and without proof.

Where travellers board at unmanned boarding/departure points, verification may occur while en route.

False claims are an offence under the *Criminal Code* and false declaration could be subject to Transport Canada fines.

Air carriers must report to Transport Canada on all such exceptions granted.

Q8. Who is considered a medical doctor or nurse practitioner for the purposes of the mandatory vaccination requirement?

A8. The following are considered a licensed medical doctor or nurse practitioner:

- Family doctor
- Nurse practitioner
- Allergist

- Immunologist
- Cardiologist
- Rheumatologist
- Oncologist

The following are not considered a licensed medical doctor or nurse practitioner:

- Paramedical or alternative health providers (e.g., chiropractor, podiatrist, optometrist, naturopath)
- Registered nurse (RN), registered practical nurse (RPN), licensed practical nurse (LPN)
- Physician's assistant (PA)
- Dentist or dental hygienist
- Psychologist

Q9. What will happen if an unvaccinated traveller must travel for urgent medical care for which the timing does not permit the advance submission of an exemption request form and/or obtaining a COVID-19 medical test?

A9. There is currently a Transport Canada exemption (C2021-165) in place to exempt those travelling due to an urgent medical reason from the mandatory vaccination requirement and the requirement for a valid COVID-19 molecular test.

Q10. What will happen if an unvaccinated traveller must travel during an emergency (e.g., natural disaster)?

A10. If an unvaccinated traveller must travel due to an emergency situation such as an evacuation due to fire or flood, or an urgent medical reason, airlines will have the authority to exempt them from the mandatory vaccination requirement and/or the requirement for a valid COVID-19 molecular test. Air carriers will only be authorized to apply this authority, however, when there is an immediate threat to the safety of the traveller.

Air carriers must report to Transport Canada on use of this exemption.

Q11. What are accepted reasons for an unvaccinated traveller to request a temporary exception due to sincerely held religious beliefs to travel within or out of Canada?

A11. For the purpose of domestic or outbound travel, air carriers may consider religious exceptions to mandatory vaccination based on sincerely held religious beliefs. These types of exemptions are anticipated to be granted very rarely.

Leaders and members of many religions and religious denominations have released public statements indicating their support for the COVID-19 vaccine, specifically in the interest of public health. In addition, a number of provincial human rights commissions, including the Ontario Human Rights Commission, believe that objection to vaccination for personal reasons is not a protected ground under their respective code and does not need accommodation.

Furthermore, there are a number of false empirical beliefs about the development, the contents, effects, or purpose of the vaccines. These are not grounds on which a religious exception can be granted. If the sincere belief is not based on religious beliefs, but rather a personal preference or

choice based on misinformation or misunderstandings of scientific information, there will be no exception granted.

Canadian provinces and territories do not issue exceptions based on sincere religious beliefs.

Q12. How can a traveller apply for an exception due to a sincerely held religious belief?

A12. Requests to travel with an exception due to a sincerely held religious belief will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis by air carriers for domestic trips. An approved exception is valid for one return trip. Subsequent trips will require a new application.

False claims are an offence under the *Criminal Code* and false declaration could be subject to Transport Canada fines.

Air carriers must report to Transport Canada all such exceptions granted.

Q13. Can a traveller use an exception form for a sincerely held religious belief to enter Canada?

A13. No. There is no exception based on religious beliefs for foreign nationals to enter into Canada. Canadian citizens, permanent residents, or those registered under the [Indian Act](#), who are not fully vaccinated, may return to Canada with a valid COVID-19 test, but must submit to testing on arrival and applicable quarantine requirements.

Q14. Can exception requests be refused? If so, how will the traveller be informed and will they be reimbursed for their travel?

A14. The air carrier will notify the applicant if an exception request is approved or refused in advance of check-in/boarding.

Travellers without confirmation of an approved exception request will not be issued a boarding pass and will not be permitted to board. Travellers may re-apply for exception requests within the time period required by the air carrier in advance of the planned date of departure only if they are providing additional information on their medical condition.

Travellers should refer to the air carrier's policy regarding refunds in case of a refusal.

Q15. What if the traveller needs to travel using different air carriers (e.g., two airlines)? Can the confirmation of exception provided by one air carrier be used to travel with another air carrier? How long does an exception last?

A15. Confirmation of exception is tied to each air carrier. Unless there is a code-share agreement in place between air carriers, the traveller is required to seek confirmation from any implicated air carrier individually. Travellers should also note that a confirmation of exception from a particular air carrier is only valid for one trip (including return).

Q16. What if a traveller was granted an exception, but their flight was cancelled at the last minute and the traveller was re-scheduled on a flight with a different air carrier? Will the exception still be accepted with the new air carrier?

A16. Since the approval for temporary exception is air carrier-specific, air carriers should make every attempt to re-schedule the traveller on a flight with the air carrier who granted the exception. Should this not be an option, the traveller would need to re-apply for the exception in order to obtain the approval of the air carrier of the re-scheduled flight.

Q17. Is there an exception to permit unvaccinated Canadians to travel within the country for compassionate reasons (e.g., attend a funeral or take care of a family member)?

A17. No. Effective November 30, 2021, travellers will have to be fully vaccinated to travel within Canada for compassionate reasons.

Q18. What if I am travelling within the 2 weeks following November 30 and qualify for an exception? Will I be eligible to fly under an exception if the application is not submitted within the timeframes specified in the *Interim Order* given that the exception forms are not available until November 30?

A18. There is currently a Transport Canada exemption in place until December 13, 2021 to allow those who are travelling for essential medical care and those who have a medical inability to be vaccinated to be able to travel. All travellers who are unvaccinated due to a sincerely held religious belief will be required to re-schedule their travel so that there is sufficient time for the air carriers to review their application.

Vaccine Requirements After Entry to Canada

Q1. What exceptions will be in place for unvaccinated foreign nationals departing Canada?

A1. Until February 28, 2022, foreign nationals will be able to take a flight for the purpose of departing Canada if they show proof of a valid COVID-19 molecular test at the time of travel.

Q2. Will a foreign national who was permitted to enter Canada be exempt from domestic vaccine requirements?

A27. Effective November 30, 2021, foreign nationals permitted to enter Canada will be allowed onward domestic travel to complete their journey and connect as required to reach their destination, as long as it is within 24 hours of arrival in Canada. This includes:

- Temporary foreign workers
- Foreign air crew members
- International students
- Travel for compassionate reasons
- Essential workers
- Family reunification
- Individuals granted national interest exemption, including diplomats and accredited foreign representatives

Newly resettled refugees and new permanent residents will be permitted 90 days to complete the journey to their final destination, if required.

Domestic travel after arrival beyond that 24-hour threshold is not permitted for any unvaccinated traveller, regardless of whether they were exempt for entry to Canada. Should domestic travel be required, a national interest exemption must be sought by the traveller.

Effective January 15, 2022, the requirements for vaccination for foreign nationals arriving in Canada will become much stricter.

All foreign nationals permitted to enter the country will be able to take a flight for the purpose of departing Canada until February 28, 2022, if they show proof of a valid COVID-19 molecular test at the time of travel and their foreign passport.

Q3. Can unvaccinated returning Canadians and permanent residents or persons registered under the *Indian Act* be issued a boarding pass for onward travel?

A3. No. Effective November 30, 2021, unvaccinated Canadians and permanent residents are permitted entry to Canada but are not permitted onward domestic travel on planes or trains until they are fully vaccinated. They will not be issued a boarding pass to complete their onward travel. As such, they will not be permitted to take a connecting flight or train to a final destination and should look into alternate arrangements upon their arrival in Canada.

Q4. What about children under 18 who are unvaccinated and permitted entry into Canada. Are they able to travel domestically upon their arrival?

A4. Effective November 30, 2021, unvaccinated foreign national children under 18 are permitted to enter Canada and permitted onward domestic travel to complete their journey and connect as required to reach their destination as long as it is within 24 hours of arrival in Canada. Children 12 years and 4 months of age will be required to be vaccinated for any travel within Canada following their arrival. Children under 12 years and 4 months are not required to be vaccinated or provide a valid COVID-19 test result for travel within Canada.

Unvaccinated children who are Canadian Citizens, permanent residents or registered under the *Indian Act* would be eligible to enter Canada but would not be permitted onward domestic travel.

The Government of Canada advises all individuals travelling to Canada to get vaccinated to ensure they are able to travel within Canada after their arrival.

Vaccine Requirements Related to Remote Communities

Q1. How will the accommodations work at remote airports?

A1. The vaccination requirement for travellers protects the health of all Canadians, including those who live in remote communities.

Residents of remote communities have a unique requirement to access air travel for essential services, including medical care, social and education services. In recognition of their unique needs, the following accommodations will remain in effect:

- Anyone completing quarantine under Public Health Authority requirements to travel (e.g., as required by Nunavut) will be exempt from the vaccination and testing requirements.
- Travellers flying out of remote communities will not be subject to the vaccination and testing requirements, until testing capacity can be developed locally.
- To facilitate onward travel and return travel, testing capacity will be enhanced at "gateway" airports.
- A traveller to or from a remote community who boards a flight at an airport that is listed in Schedule 2 of the [Interim Order Respecting Certain Requirements for Civil Aviation Due to COVID-19](#) and who does not have a proof of vaccination or a valid molecular test, will be offered a Lucira Check It self-test, free of charge. They will be allowed to board upon a negative result of that test.

In the meantime, Transport Canada, with Indigenous Services Canada, Health Canada, and the Public Health Agency of Canada, will continue engaging with Indigenous Peoples, provinces and territories, and local authorities in remote communities on adjustments to these accommodations to further strengthen the health benefits for travellers to and from these communities.

Vaccine Requirements Related to Non-Passengers

Q1. What are the alternatives for non-passengers who require access to the restricted area of an airport who are unable to be vaccinated?

A1. Similar to the federal public service, there will be limited exceptions for employees in the federally regulated air transportation sector. These limited exceptions apply to those employees who are medically unable to be vaccinated or those unable to be vaccinated due to religious reasons.

Should an employer agree to accommodate an employee, non-passengers should complete one of the following forms:

- Religious Exemption Request Form
- Medical Exemption Request Form

If a non-passenger is partially vaccinated, but has not completed the second dose or the interval subsequent to a final dose, they should fill out the "First Dose Exemption Request Form" for approval of their employer.

Q2. How will employees provide confirmation of vaccination?

A2. Employers will determine what type of confirmation of vaccination is acceptable. This may be in the form of an employee attestation with the right to see further documents, or a proof of vaccination credential issued by the province or territory.

Q3. Who will be responsible for verifying an employee's proof of vaccination prior to entering the restricted area?

A3. Federally regulated air carriers will be required to validate vaccination status of employees in their workplaces. In addition, airport authorities and the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority

(CATSA) will have added responsibilities for verifying that workers going into the restricted area of the airports have been fully vaccinated.

Employers also play a role to ensure that their employees are vaccinated in accordance with their internal vaccination policies.

Q4. Does the vaccination requirement apply to foreign crew members?

A4. Foreign flight crew are exempt from the vaccination requirements until January 15, 2022, after which time, they will be required to be fully vaccinated.

Q5. What will the consequences be for employees who falsify information?

A5. Transport Canada will conduct compliance activities such as inspections and enforcement. Regulated entities who do not meet the regulatory requirement could be subject to Administrative Monetary Penalties.

There will be serious consequences for employees who falsify information. For example, in the air sector, employees could be fined up to \$5,000 per violation under the *Aeronautics Act*, and operators could be fined up to \$25,000 per violation.

Q6. How does the vaccination mandate apply to contractors working at airports?

A6. All contractors working on aerodrome property will need to be vaccinated in accordance with the vaccination mandate. In addition, since aerodromes may have more stringent vaccinations policies in place, these individuals are encouraged to review the aerodrome's policy regarding mandatory vaccination.

Q7. Do the air carriers have to keep the attestations from the passengers or track the verifications?

A7. No, there is currently no requirement for the air carriers to keep passenger attestations. The requirement on the air carrier is to ensure that the passenger has made the attestation.

Q8. What if a non-passenger entering the restricted area is only partially vaccinated as of November 15, 2021?

A8. Non-passengers who need to enter the restricted area and are only partially vaccinated as of November 15, 2021 should check with their employer. Should the employer's policy allow for it (or that of the broader airport authority's policy), the non-passenger should complete the form "First Dose Exemption Request Form" for their employer's approval. Partially vaccinated includes those who have had a single dose of a two-dose vaccine, or those who have had their final dose, but have not yet completed the 14 day interval following the vaccination to be considered fully vaccinated. Partially vaccinated employees will have until January 24, 2022 to complete their second dose.