

Bulletin: Update to Guidance to Operators on Exemptions – January 7 2022
Provincial / Territorial Medical Exemptions

This Bulletin is for the purpose of providing an update to information contained in the Guidance to Operators on Exemptions. Specifically, the section ‘Provincial/Territorial medical exemptions’ on page 4.

As respects Provincial or Territorial exemptions for medical contraindication, the approach by Provinces and Territories continues to evolve. **It is strongly recommended that operators keep current on evolving Provincial and Territorial approaches.**

The below represents changes to the approaches as of January 7, 2022 (changes highlighted):

Jurisdiction	Provincial/Territorial Documentation	Direction to traveller
PEI, NWT	Medical Letter issued by Province/Territory following a review process.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete Operator’s Exemption Form (except for section F) and attach the P/T issued medical letter in lieu of completion of section F by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner. - COVID Test required for travel
MB, QC, NL, ON, YK	Provincial Digital or Physical Immunization Card (exemption not indicated in physical immunization card or digital QR Code)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete Operator’s Exemption Form (except for section F) and attach the P/T issued medical credential in lieu of completion of section F by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner. - COVID Test required for travel
NB, AB, NS, NL	Letter completed by Medical Doctor or Nurse Practitioner licenced to practice in the Province/Territory.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete Operator’s Exemption Form (except for section F) and attach the completed medical exemption letter in lieu of completion of section F by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner. - COVID Test required for travel
BC, NU, SK	N/A - Jurisdictions do not issue medical exemption letters or credentials, and do not provide templates for doctors. Medical exemptions are not recognized in the Province.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complete Operator’s Exemption Form <u>including section F</u> by a medical doctor or nurse practitioner - COVID Test required for travel

Types of documents issued or accepted by each province/territory as exemptions to vaccination for persons medically unable to be vaccinated against COVID-19:

P/T	Exemption Document	Provincial webpage
British Columbia	There are no medical exemptions for the COVID-19 vaccines recognized by the Province.	Proof of vaccination and the BC Vaccine Card - Province

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		of British Columbia (gov.bc.ca) Vaccine Considerations (bccdc.ca)
Alberta	<p>A valid medical exemption is the original signed letter from a physician or nurse practitioner that includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Date which the letter was provided. - Person's name that matches their identification. - Physician's or nurse practitioner's complete information, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o name, phone number, contact information, professional registration number and signature o statement that there is a medical reason for not being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 o duration that the exemption is valid 	COVID-19 public health actions Alberta.ca
Saskatchewan	<p>As immunization is not mandatory, exemption is not required.</p>	Government of Saskatchewan / Proof of COVID Vaccination / Affidavit Submissions
Manitoba	<p>Provincial Digital or Physical Immunization Card (exemption not indicated in digital or physical immunization card)</p>	Province of Manitoba Eligibility Criteria (gov.mb.ca)
Ontario	<p>Enhanced vaccination certificate with official QR Code (exemption not indicated in digital certificate)</p>	Medical Exemption Guidance (gov.on.ca)
Quebec	<p>Provincial Digital Passport (exemption not indicated in digital Passport)</p>	COVID-19 protection status Gouvernement du Québec (quebec.ca)
New Brunswick	<p>A New Brunswick Medical Exemption template form signed by a physician or nurse practitioner licensed in New Brunswick is accepted as meeting the proof of vaccination policy. A note written on a prescription pad is not accepted as an exemption form.</p>	Proof of Covid-19 Vaccination (gnb.ca)
Nova Scotia	<p>Valid Medical Contraindication for COVID-19 Vaccination template letter from doctor or nurse practitioner.</p>	Coronavirus (COVID-19): medical exceptions - Government of Nova Scotia, Canada
PEI	<p>Individuals claiming a medical exemption from COVID-19 vaccination will be required to have a Medical Exemption Letter issued by the Chief Public Health Office</p>	Residents - Important PEI Vax Pass Information Government of Prince Edward Island
Newfoundland and Labrador	<p>Acceptable proof of an approved medical exemption includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An electronic QR code downloaded and shown on a mobile device (e.g., tablet or smartphone) (exemption not indicated); or 	Guidance for Residents - COVID-19 (gov.nl.ca)

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A physical copy of the QR code (exemption not indicated); or, - A Valid Medical Exemption for COVID-19 Vaccination letter. 	
Yukon	Temporary vaccine medical deferral issued by Government of Yukon by way of QR Code credential. Credential will show Vaccines Administered: 0.	Learn about temporary medical deferrals for COVID-19 vaccines Government of Yukon
Northwest Territories	Territorial (NTHSSA) Medical Letter of Exemption	Public Notice - Medical Vaccine Exemptions, Travel and Workplace Testing Health and Social Services Authority (nthssa.ca)
Nunavut	No medical exemption process defined	Travel and Isolation Government of Nunavut

NEW!! Note about QR Code Readers:

QR Code readers that indicate an ‘adequately protected’ status message in **green** (QC), or a green check mark screen (ON), do not provide sufficient detail to verify that a traveller is fully vaccinated. Digital vaccination credentials from certain provinces (ON, MB, NL, QC) will not show medical exemptions. Travellers with medical exemptions must produce the results of a valid COVID-19 test before travelling.

QR Code readers used for domestic and outbound travel must have the technical ability to show sufficient information to validate an individual is fully vaccinated, including:

- Full name (family name and given name(s)) of the person who received the vaccine;
- The name of the government / non-government entity who issued the proof document;
- The manufacturer of the vaccine and number of doses (refer to: [COVID-19 vaccinated travellers entering Canada - Travel restrictions in Canada – Travel.gc.ca](#) for information on the accepted vaccines/regimens).
- The date the traveller received their second dose. This date must be at least 14 full days prior to their date of travel. For example, if the last dose was administered on Thursday July 1, then Friday July 16 would be the first day that the traveller would meet the 14-day condition).