

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS | *Questions & answers about the Provincial Health Officer's updated Order on collection and retention of COVID-19 vaccination status*

June 27, 2022

Pursuant to the Order of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO) of British Columbia entitled, "[Health Professionals COVID-19 Vaccination Status Information – June 10, 2022](#)" (the "Order"), the College will continue to collect and retain the vaccination status of all our registrants.

Below are answers to frequently asked questions to assist you in better understanding the public health order and what is required of you as a registrant to comply with the order.

Q: Which health professions are covered by this Order?

The Order applies to all registrants of health profession regulatory colleges in BC across all registration categories.

Q: Does the Order apply to all College registrants, including those registered as Non-practising?

Yes, the Order applies to all registrants in all registration classes.

Q: Under the PHO Order, what are BC's health profession regulatory colleges required to do?

Under the *Public Health Act*, all individuals and organizations are required to comply with the requirements set by the Provincial Health Officer. The PHO Order requires the College to

- collect and retain the vaccination status of their registrants
- provide aggregate information respecting vaccination status of its registrants to the PHO on request for the purpose of preventing or responding to exposures or clusters or outbreaks
- provide information, if available, to the PHO or medical health officer about the vaccination status of a registrant and where that registrant works or aggregate information about the location of all places where registrants work and the vaccination status of registrants who work in each of those places

Q: Why do regulatory colleges have to comply with the Order?

The PHO has the legal authority to issue emergency preventive measures orders under the *Public Health Act*. CSHBC will be required to comply with the Order as long as it is in effect.

Q: What is the Provincial Health Officer's jurisdiction to order registrants to prove they are vaccinated or prove they have been exempted?

The Provincial Health Officer's jurisdiction comes from her emergency powers under the *Public Health Act*.

Q: I registered with CSHBC as a labour mobility applicant from another province/territory or applied as an international applicant from another country and my vaccination verification is from out-of-province or out-of-country. What do I need to do to ensure my vaccination status is confirmed?

If you are vaccinated in a province in Canada, you may submit proof of vaccination provided by the government of Canada or the government of a province in Canada.

If you have been vaccinated outside of Canada, you must provide proof in English, French, or a certified translation into English or French, whether electronic or in writing, issued by a government or a government body or by an organization that administered the vaccine for the purpose of showing proof of vaccination, which

- is in the form of an official certificate, pass, card, receipt or confirmation showing the number of doses of vaccine received,
- is not just a QR code,
- includes in text:
 - your name,
 - the name of the government or government body or organization that administered the vaccine,
 - the brand name or any other information that identifies the vaccine,
 - the date the vaccine was administered.

Q: I am partially vaccinated. How will my vaccination status be recorded?

Registrants who are partially vaccinated will be recorded as “unvaccinated and without exemption”. Under the Order, the term “vaccinated” means,

“to have received, at least 7 days previously, all doses of a vaccine or a combination of vaccines, but not including a booster dose, as recommended by the provincial health officer, with respect to vaccines approved for use in Canada by

- (a) the department of the federal government responsible for regulating drugs, or*
- (b) the World Health Organization, with respect to vaccines approved by the World Health Organization but not approved for use in Canada ”*

Q: How will my vaccination information be used?

The Order requires the College to collect and retain the vaccination status of its registrants. The College must disclose to the PHO or a medical health officer, on request, registrant information regarding vaccination status, either on an aggregate or individual basis.

The Order also requires the College to provide information about the vaccination status of registrants to post-secondary institutions, upon request, to aid them in determining if applicants to health science programs, residency programs, and other postgraduate medical education programs are eligible to attend at places subject to the [Hospital and Community \(Health Care and Other Services\) COVID-19 Vaccination Status Information and Preventive Measures Order](#) and the [Residential Care COVID-19 Preventive Measures Order](#).

Q: What will happen if I don't provide proof of/disclose my vaccination status to the College on request?

Registrants who do not provide vaccination status information to CSHBC upon request will be recorded as “unvaccinated and without exemption”.

Q: What if I have a medical exemption from the PHO?

A valid exemption must be one issued by the Office of the Provincial Health Officer (PHO). If you receive a medical exemption from the PHO, you will need to provide proof of the medical exemption to CSHBC.