



Fall OSCE Update

Vaccination Policy

Dear Candidates,

In keeping with the ever-evolving nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and institutional and organizational responses to it, the College has received notice that McMaster University (where the upcoming CDO OSCE examinations will be held) has implemented a COVID-19 vaccination policy that requires everyone seeking access to McMaster University facilities, including visitors, provide proof that they have been **fully vaccinated** against COVID-19, subject to limited exceptions, by October 18.

The CDO OSCE exams fall under this new policy, which means that all examination candidates must be fully vaccinated in order to attend the OSCE examination on October 23-24 or November 27-28. It appears that examination candidates who attend the September OSCE examination on September 18-19 may provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test if they are unable to provide proof of being fully vaccinated.

Consistent with guidance from the Ontario Ministry of Health, McMaster University considers individuals to be “fully vaccinated” after 14 days have passed after the individual’s second dose in an approved two-dose vaccine series or after the first dose of an approved one-dose COVID-19 vaccine series.

McMaster University has not yet provided the College with details of the process by which individuals can provide proof of vaccination, but it will likely involve uploading vaccination documentation to McMaster University through an app or website. We also do not yet have details around how individuals can provide a negative COVID-19 test result if necessary, or around how individuals can apply for exemptions, but McMaster University has indicated that exemptions can be requested on grounds protected by the Ontario *Human Rights Code*, which includes confirmed medical reasons. Further details regarding McMaster University’s process and policy will be provided to you by the College as they become available. We apologize for the scarcity of details at this time, but felt it in the interest of all candidates that we provide you with this initial information that was just received by the College. For more information, you can review McMaster’s policy [here](#).

What this means for you

- **If you have been fully vaccinated**, please be prepared to show proof of vaccinations (i.e., Ministry of Health’s dose administration receipt). McMaster University may require everyone to upload the dose receipts onto a portal. We will provide an update as soon as we get more information. Do not send this information to the College.
- **If you have not been fully vaccinated but intend to do so**, you may still have time to get fully vaccinated by the end of this week to meet the 14-day requirement to be considered fully vaccinated by the September 18-19 examination.
- **If you have not been vaccinated or have not yet received your first dose** of a two-dose vaccine series and are scheduled for the September 18-19 administration of the OSCE examination, you can be rescheduled to the November 27-28 exam at no charge to you. This will provide you with time to become fully vaccinated.
 - Alternatively, you can provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test (must be within 48 hours of Sept 18) acceptable to McMaster University. (Please note that providing proof of a negative COVID-19 test does not appear to be an option after October 18.) As this is a McMaster University Policy, we do not have details on how to submit your test results.
- If you are scheduled for either the October 23-24 or November 27-28 administration of the exam and are not fully vaccinated, you have time to become fully vaccinated, even if you haven’t started the vaccination process.
- Candidates will be provided with a full refund of paid examination registration fees upon request.
- **As noted above, as further details surrounding McMaster University’s policy and process become available, we will provide them to all OSCE examination candidates.**

Questions?

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact:

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