



## Restrictions Exemption Frequently Asked Questions

(Updated January 18, 2022)

On September 20, 2021, GPRC implemented a Restrictions Exemption Program (proof of vaccine or negative rapid test) in order to align with the Government of Alberta's mandatory COVID-19 public health measures. GPRC's COVID-19 Policy provides the foundation for our approach along with individual requirements.

### General Questions

#### 1. Who is affected?

GPRC's COVID-19 Policy is applicable to all current and prospective members of the campus community including all students (domestic, international, collaborative) and learning community members (staff, volunteers, visitors, consultants and contractors).

#### 2. What are my options?

On January 3, 2022, GPRC will move to a [mandatory vaccine policy](#). This decision mirrors the actions of most post-secondary institutions across the province and country. It means that anyone who intends to come to campus for any reason must be fully vaccinated or have an approved exemption. GPRC will no longer be accepting proof of a negative rapid test unless an exemption has been granted.

#### 3. How can I get an exemption?

Anyone seeking an exemption for medical reasons or on grounds protected under the Alberta Human Rights Act must complete and submit the associated forms to [covidexemption@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:covidexemption@gprc.ab.ca). All exemption documents may be found on the [COVID-19 webpage](#).

Exemption requests can be submitted at any time, but requests submitted after November 30, 2021 cannot guarantee an uninterrupted start to the Winter term. GPRC will provide written notice of approval/rejection within three (3) business days. During this time of review, students/staff are not permitted on campus or to attend any in-person GPRC activities.

#### 4. Is testing still required?

All individuals who have been granted a medical or religious exemption for COVID-19 vaccination are required to participate in this COVID-19 Rapid Testing and Test Disclosure Protocol to attend GPRC campus activities. Individuals must be tested within 72-hours to attend campus by a third party provider. At-home tests are not accepted.



## Vaccination Questions

### 1. When can I show my proof of vaccination?

At this time, we are asking students, faculty and staff to share their proof of their full vaccination as soon as possible. This will help facilitate our planning and minimize any potential service disruption.

### 2. How can I show my proof of vaccination?

Students can login to myGPRC. A step-by-step process for students can be found [here](#). Students may also provide documentation in-person at Student Services (both campuses).

Staff, faculty and other members of the learning community can email their documentation to [staffcovid@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:staffcovid@gprc.ab.ca). Please be sure to specify your name, position and employee group.

### 3. What forms of vaccination proof are acceptable?

We will accept a QR code vaccine record. This scannable document can be saved to your phone or printed. You can obtain your copy by visiting the [Alberta Covid Records website](#).

### 4. What if I can't provide proof of vaccination?

While there were some initial challenges in obtaining proof of vaccination, this process has improved significantly. Anyone can now get a card-sized vaccine record with QR code using this convenient [website](#).

We are also giving our students and learning community members the option to confirm their vaccination status by email affirmation in the near term. Please email [staffcovid@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:staffcovid@gprc.ab.ca). You will need to indicate how many doses you have received and the date of your most recent dose. You may also note appointments booked in the future and your anticipated date of full vaccination.

### 5. Is there a deadline for providing proof of double vaccination (Winter 2022 Term)?

Complete documentation, showing two COVID-19 vaccine doses must be provided to Human Resources (for staff) or through myGPRC (for students) by January 3, 2022.

### 6. I recently got vaccinated, am I able to attend campus?

Yes. Please provide proof as above.

### 7. I'm planning on getting vaccinated but just haven't had the time.

Beginning January 3, 2022, anyone who intends to come to campus for any reason must be fully vaccinated or have an approved exemption. GPRC will no longer be accepting proof of a negative rapid test unless an exemption has been granted.

If you are in the process of getting fully vaccinated, please submit an exemption request to ensure continued policy compliance.

**8. How will my vaccination/affirmation information be stored?**

Information will be collected on a secure campus server and protected under Alberta FOIP legislation. Vaccine records are not kept by GPRC.

## **Rapid Testing Questions – for staff and students with an approved exemption**

Beginning January 3, 2022, GPRC will move to a [mandatory vaccine policy](#). This means that anyone who intends to come to campus for any reason must be fully vaccinated or have an approved exemption. GPRC will no longer be accepting proof of a negative rapid test unless an exemption has been granted. GPRC is no longer offering rapid testing services on campus.

Individuals must be tested within 72-hours to attend campus by a third party provider. At-home tests are not accepted.

**1. Where can I access private testing?**

There may be service providers in the community who are also able to assist.

**2. What is the cost of private rapid testing?**

This cost may vary depending on the provider. It is the responsibility of the student, staff or community member to pay for private testing.

**3. Why do I need to test every 72-hours?**

Individuals can spread COVID-19 without knowing they are infectious. Studies have shown that people are most likely to transmit the virus in the days prior to feeling unwell. GPRC's 72-hour time frame is crucial for identifying people who may not yet have signs or symptoms of the virus but present a risk to others.

**4. What is the process for sharing my rapid test results?**

Rapid test results are submitted using the same process someone would use for proof of vaccination submission.

**Exempted Staff** - proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of accessing campus is required. Tests must be submitted each week on Sunday and Wednesday prior to midnight. Please submit these tests to [staffcovid@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:staffcovid@gprc.ab.ca)

**Exempted Students** - proof of a negative COVID-19 test taken within 72 hours of accessing campus is required. This test must have been submitted no later than midnight on the day prior to your attendance on campus. Please upload your tests through myGPRC. If assistance is required, please email [covid19@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:covid19@gprc.ab.ca).

More information about testing requirements can be found [here](#).

**5. What happens if I test positive?**



If you test positive you are required by law to follow Alberta Health Services isolation requirements.

**6. If I test positive can I work/learn from home?**

We ask that you work with your supervisor and the Director of Human Resources if you test positive and need to explore alternate work arrangements.

Students – please reach out to your instructors to explore alternate learning arrangements. If further academic supports are required, please email [covid@gprc.ab.ca](mailto:covid@gprc.ab.ca)

## **Other Staff/Faculty Questions**

**1. Can I work from home?**

GPRC will be identifying specific positions where operational effectiveness will not be negatively impacted by temporary work from home arrangements. Please consult your Dean, Director or immediate supervisor to query your eligibility. An accommodation process is required for those who may be eligible.

**2. Why do I need to provide proof of vaccination or a negative test if I am working from home?**

The operational effectiveness of our institution is dependent on staff and faculty being available to perform in-person duties as required. As such, it is critical that everyone be prepared to attend campus and able to meet entry criteria.

**3. What if I don't want to vaccinate or show proof of a negative test?**

Staff and faculty who do not wish to comply with GPRC's COVID-19 policy may be placed on temporary unpaid leave of absence or otherwise removed from service.

## **Other Student Questions**

**1. What if I no longer want to continue with my program?**

The drop date for the Winter 2022 semester is January 21, 2022. Any students who decide to withdraw from their program prior to this deadline will receive a refund. We strongly encourage students who are considering dropping their courses to speak with an academic advisor about their options.

**2. What if I live in residence?**

Students who live in residence are responsible to ensure they comply with GPRC's COVID-19 policy. Please note that any guests or visitors must also be able to show full vaccination.