

Policy Name:	COVID-19 Vaccination for Service Users
Category:	Human Resources
Approved by:	Board of Directors
Approval/Revision Date:	12/01/2021
Review Date:	Ongoing
Scope:	All CMCP Service Users

PURPOSE

COVID-19 is an infectious disease caused by the novel coronavirus and was declared a global pandemic by the World Health Organization on March 11, 2020. This policy is based on directives from the Ontario Government, guidance from public health authorities and is in accordance with Mothercraft’s obligations under the *Occupational Health and Safety Act* (OHSa). It is also aligned with CMCPs commitment to protecting the health and well-being of children, families, students, other service users, staff, students on placement, volunteers, and essential visitors.

POLICY

All service users seeking to access indoor, in-person CMCP programs and/or services, are required to be:

- fully vaccinated with a recognized COVID-19 vaccine, or;
- provide proof of exemption based on a medical/disability or other protected ground under the Ontario Human Rights Code and a negative Rapid Antigen test conducted within the previous 48 hours.

Individuals who do not comply with this policy will not be granted entry into a CMCP facility.

In-person service users who are unable to access vaccines or Rapid Antigen tests will be offered support to access information about vaccination, how to get vaccinated and/or how to secure Rapid Antigen tests. Alternatives to in-person programs or services will be offered to those who are not able to comply with this policy as much as possible and where feasible.

In-person service users must follow public health guidelines with respect to the use of personal protective equipment (PPE), physical distancing, screening, etc.

This policy will be regularly reviewed and updated to match the most current pandemic conditions, and to reflect up-to-date evidence and public health guidance.

DEFINITIONS

In-person Service Users: Individuals, aged 12 years and up as of December 31, 2021, who are accessing or participating in any indoor CMCP programs or services (i.e., EarlyON programs). This policy will not be applied to individuals picking up food/supplies such as Food Bank client.

Designated CMCP staff: Authorized staff responsible for confirming information of service users.

Fully vaccinated against COVID-19:

An individual is considered “fully vaccinated” if they have received a series of vaccines as outlined in the Ministry of Health definition. Further details can be found here:

https://health.gov.on.ca/en/pro/programs/publichealth/coronavirus/docs/vaccine/COVID-19_fully_vaccinated_status_ontario.pdf

COVID-19 vaccination proof:

- For an individual partially or fully vaccinated,
 - in Ontario, the receipt provided by the Ministry of Health;
 - in Canada but outside of Ontario, the receipt provided by the provincial or territorial Health Ministry or approved vaccine passport/certificate, or
 - outside of Canada, a receipt for World Health Organization approved vaccines.

Rapid Antigen Testing: A point of care screening test (POCT) for COVID-19 that can be administered by a physician, trained nurse practitioner or a trained individual. <https://covid-19.ontario.ca/provincial-antigen-screening-program>

PROCEDURE

1. Application of this Policy

- As of the policy effective date, all In-person Service Users accessing CMCP indoor programs and services must be fully vaccinated or present a medical/disability or other protected ground exemption and a negative Rapid Antigen test result as outlined in Section 3.
- CMCP will provide a reasonable period of time to comply with this policy and may provide an extension of a reasonable duration, on a case-by-case basis, where there are unforeseen or extenuating circumstances that do not allow an individual to meet the requirements outlined above.

2. Vaccination Status

- Proof of full vaccination and identification must be shown to a designated CMCP staff prior to entering a CMCP facility.
- In-person Service Users who have received vaccinations in Ontario but do not have a vaccination record document, may access these documents through the provincial online portal: <https://covid19.ontariohealth.ca/> or by calling the Provincial Vaccine Booking Line at 1-833-943-3900.
- No medical or personal health documentation will be kept by CMCP.
- In-person Service Users who have only received their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccination series will be required to undertake rapid antigen screening tests as outlined in section 3 of this policy, until proof of full vaccination can be provided.
- Individuals seeking to access in-person CMCP programs and services who experience difficulty accessing vaccines and/or information about vaccination can request support from CMCP staff.

3. Exemptions and Rapid Antigen Testing

- In-person Service Users who are not fully vaccinated will be required to provide proof of exemption, identification and a negative Rapid Antigen test conducted within the previous 48 hours.
- AKAN staff can provide information about where and how to access Rapid Antigen testing. Information about how to complete a rapid antigen test is available at the following links:
English:
<https://www.ontariohealth.ca/sites/ontariohealth/files/2021-08/PASP-COVID19-Self-Testing%20Instructions.docx>

French: <https://www.ontariohealth.ca/sites/ontariohealth/files/2021-08/PASP-COVID19-SelfTesting%20Instructions-FR.docx>

- No personal documentation will be kept by CMCP.
- If an In-person Service User is confirmed to have a positive COVID-19 rapid antigen screening test result, they are not permitted to attend a CMCP facility or access indoor programs and services. All public health guidelines and protocols will be followed before they may return.

4. Records of Proof of Vaccination, Medical Exemption and Testing

- A designated CMCP staff will verify proof of vaccination or exemption and Rapid Antigen testing results and maintain a record that this information was presented for reporting /tracking purposes only.
- CMCP may be required to report statistical information to regulators and/or government. No identifying information will be provided in relation to this policy; only statistical information will be provided in anonymous, aggregate form unless identifiable information is required by law.