



Return to Classroom and COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

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Tamwood Vaccination Policy

With most programs at Tamwood resuming more in-person activities in the fall, and in response to recent directives from the Chief Medical Officers in both Ontario and British Columbia, Tamwood has implemented the following vaccine policy and student arrival protocols. The goals of this policy are to create a safer return to campus for the entire community and reduce the risk of COVID-19.

Tamwood will require weekly COVID-19 antigen testing and completion of an Education Session about the benefits of the COVID-19 vaccine for all students, faculty, staff, volunteers and contractors who do not provide either:

- a) proof of full vaccination with a WHO approved vaccine against COVID-19; or
- b) written proof of a medical reason, provided by a physician or registered nurse in the extended class that sets out: (i) a documented medical reason for not being fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and (ii) the effective time-period for the medical reason; or
- c) proof of completing an educational session approved by the Covered Organization about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination prior to declining vaccination for any reason other than a medical reason.

Where an individual does not provide proof of being fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in accordance with this Policy, but instead relies upon the medical reason described at above or the educational session described above, the individual shall:

- a) submit to weekly antigen point of care testing for COVID-19 and demonstrate a negative result,
- b) provide verification of the negative test result in a manner determined by the Tamwood that enables Tamwood to confirm the result at its discretion.

Definition of Fully Vaccinated

An individual is considered fully vaccinated when 14 days have passed since they have received a single-dose vaccine or the second dose of a two-dose vaccine. This means that Tamwood staff and students who will be working and/or learning on campus or taking part in other Tamwood activities will need to receive their final dose by August 23, 2021, to be exempt from the mandatory weekly covid antigen testing that will start on September 8, 2021.

British Columbia Grace Period

BC Students: We understand there might be some challenge to be fully vaccinated due to short notice of this policy, therefore we are implementing a grace period in BC:

- Students studying in our Vancouver Campus will be allowed to attend class without a negative COVID-19 antigen test result, if they received one dose of the vaccine before October 24, 2021. These students will be required to:
 - Keep a mask on the entire time while on campus;
 - Leave campus immediately after class and are not allowed to stay in the common areas after class;
- Students who are not fully vaccinated are not allowed to participate in school organized activities, workshops, events and outings (anything that is not required course work).

Disclosure of Vaccination Status

Starting September 7, 2021, Tamwood will be implementing mandatory self-disclosure of vaccination status for all those who access our campuses, including students, faculty, staff, volunteers and contractors. This will be a confidential process, accompanied by weekly COVID-19 rapid testing for those who are not vaccinated or choose not to disclose their vaccination status.

Method of Disclosure of Vaccination Status

- While the physical or email COVID-19 vaccination receipt is the preferred method of demonstrating proof of vaccination, Tamwood will also accept attestations of full vaccination against COVID-19 until October 29, 2021.

Unable to Provide Proof of Vaccine

- **COVID 19 Vaccine Education Session:** Students and staff who do not provide proof of full vaccination status are required to attend an Education Session about the benefits of COVID-19 vaccination in accordance with provincial rules and regulations. Topics covered during the session provided by the Vaccination Officer include:
 - How COVID-19 vaccines work;
 - Vaccine safety related to the development of the COVID-19 vaccines;
 - The benefits of vaccination against COVID-19;
 - Risks of not being vaccinated against COVID-19;
 - Possible side effects of COVID-19 vaccination.

COVID 19 Rapid Test Requirements

Students, faculty, staff, volunteers and contractors who do not provide proof of full vaccination status are required to absorb the cost of the regular rapid testing, if there are any, alternatively they can arrange their own COVID-19 test from a recognized provider and produce their official test results on the standard weekly test day on campus.

- Proof of negative test results is required every week.
 - The test result is valid for 7 days from the date of test, not from date of the test result.
 - For example, if you take a test on April 1 but receive your result on April 5, your test is only valid for 1 week from April 1.

Tamwood Mask Mandate

As a result of Public Health order, effective August 25, 2021, non-medical masks are required for all indoor public areas at Tamwood Vancouver, Whistler and Toronto, including lobbies, hallways, stairwells, elevators, classrooms, washrooms, student lounges and labs. Mask can only be removed if student is eating or drinking.

Test Procedures for People unable to Provide Proof of Vaccine

- Testing for staff, faculty, and students unable to provide proof of vaccine status:
 - General notes:
 - Antigen screening tests **do not replace infection prevention and control measures such as** symptom screening, appropriate distancing, use of PPE, and hand-hygiene activities.
 - Antigen screening tests **should only be used on asymptomatic individuals** who have passed the initial standard screening conducted within the workplace. They should not be used for symptomatic individuals, or individuals who have had close contact with known positive cases in the context of this program. Symptomatic individuals, or individuals who have had close contact with known positive cases should be directed to a Provincial Assessment Centre for testing.
 - Ontario, Toronto Campus:
 - Tamwood will have Antigen Screening kits on campus
 - For student and staff who require testing, they must arrive on campus during designated time to complete their in-person, on-campus supervised screening:
 - Tamwood will try our best schedule screenings during non-busy times.
 - Antigen screening tests must be used in **accordance with the Chief Medical Officer of Health's [COVID-19 covid 19 Guidance: Considerations for Antigen Point-of-Care Testing](#)**.
 - As per [COVID-19 covid 19 Provincial Testing Guidance](#), a positive result on a rapid antigen test is considered a **preliminary positive** and should be followed up with a laboratory-based PCR test to act as a confirmatory test as soon as possible (ideally within 48 hours).

- As per [COVID-19 covid 19 Provincial Testing Guidance](#), an individual who receives a positive antigen test result **must self-isolate**, until the result of the confirmatory, lab-based PCR test is known.
- British Columbia, Vancouver Campus:
- Tamwood will assist with arranging for students and staff who require regular testing to go to a designed medical clinic for testing, and students will be personally responsible for any and all costs associated with their COVID-19 testing and delivery of test results.