

Memo

COVID Vaccination and Other Vaccines /Tuberculosis (TB) Skin Tests

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Important message for students about COVID-19 vaccinations and other vaccines/tuberculosis (TB) skin tests:

Students in the MD program are strongly encouraged to obtain their complete series of COVID-19 vaccinations before the start of the upcoming academic year as stated in the [COFM Immunization Policy 2021](#). The current guidelines are that students need to **wait 28 days after having their COVID-19 vaccine before they can receive other vaccines or have a TB skin test**. They also need to **wait 14 days after getting any vaccine before getting a COVID-19 vaccine**.

For Medical Students Entering Years 1 and 2 - Preclinical

The Schulich School of Medicine encourages all preclinical students to meet their health requirements as outlined on the annual [requirements checklist](#) in the order recommended by their family physician. We strongly encourage vaccination for COVID-19 and understand that for some students, this may result in a delay in meeting the August 16 Health Clearance Guideline. While we encourage all to work toward meeting the deadline, please know that we will allow some flexibility because of the delays required to receive this new vaccine. It is important to note that students in Year 1 and 2 must have passed their Verified appointment to participate in learning or observership opportunities in clinical settings. These opportunities are usually made available after October 1.

For Medical Students Entering Years 3 and 4 - Clinical

The Schulich School of Medicine and our teaching hospitals encourage all clinical students to complete their COVID vaccinations as soon as possible, even if doing so does require a delay in obtaining the required Tuberculosis skin tests or other booster vaccinations as outlined on the annual [requirements checklist](#).

We understand that prioritizing your COVID vaccination may mean that some may not be able to meet the August 16 Health Clearance deadline. While we encourage all to work toward meeting the deadline, please know that we will allow some flexibility because of the delays required to receive this new vaccine.

I've missed the August 16 Deadline—What will happen?

Following the August 16th deadline, the School will run a report to see who has not completed their Verified appointment with Synergy. Students who have not met the deadline will be asked to provide updated information to indicate their plans and estimated date by which this requirement will be met. Students will be permitted to begin their school year with an expectation that the annual clearance requirements will be met as soon as possible after the deadline.