

Fourth dose eligibility

This document was prepared on March 24, 2022 by Nicole Volpe.

Nicole works for North Yorkers for Disabled Persons as an Outreach Communication Facilitator. She can be reached at nicole.nydp@gmail.com.

This document is not meant to provide or take the place of medical advice, diagnosis or treatment, or legal advice.

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The city of Toronto has issued a statement on their website regarding the fourth booster of mRNA vaccines to fight the spread of COVID-19. They have recommended the fourth dose to residents of long-term care homes, retirement homes, elder care lodges and any other adults who reside in congregate settings. They've also recommended that any adult over 18 years of age, who are immunocompromised should receive this next dose, which would be administered at least 3 months after their third booster was received.

Adults 18 years of age or older who are not immunocompromised, but have received 3 doses of any non-Health Canada authorized COVID-19 vaccine, as long as they show proof of immunization and have received their first 3 doses at the appropriate interval will be eligible.

They have indicated that both the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines would be appropriate and available for the fourth boosters. However, they have specified that data suggests that Moderna may provide better immunity.

Those who may be extremely immunocompromised are required to bring a [referral form](#) with them, or a letter from their physician or their authorizing organization, confirming that they are eligible. The letter would require their full name, address (matching an ID) and your OHIP number.

The final eligibility at this time would be those who are taking eligible medications. To see a list of what medications are considered under this, please see the list here under [Table 1](#). You would be required to bring proof of the prescription rather than bringing the prescription itself, due to some requiring special handling. If you do not have a prescription record, it's recommended that you call your pharmacy to request one. If you must bring the physical medication with you, they are asking that you place it in a see-through plastic bag as to be able to read the full medication name, prescription date and the individuals name on the label, and to ensure that the bag is well sealed.

More Information:

- City of Toronto: [COVID-19: Where to Get Vaccinated](#)
- Ministry of Health: [COVID-19 Vaccination Recommendations for Special Populations](#)
- Ministry of Health: [COVID-19 Vaccine Third Dose Recommendations](#)

What other restrictions are being lifted by the end of April?

March 21 – Most mask requirements lifted

- Mask mandates will be dropped in most public settings, except public transit, long-term care and retirement homes, health-care settings, congregate care settings, shelters and jails
- Mask mandates in schools, as well as on-site symptom screening will end
- Requirements for businesses to enforce masking are removed, including screening and they will not be required to have a COVID-19 safety plan

March 28 – Reopening Ontario Act expires

- The Reopening Ontario Act expires, however the remaining orders associated with the act are extended for 30 days

April 27 – All remaining mask requirements are lifted

- Mask mandates will be removed in all remaining settings
- Any remaining orders under the Reopening Ontario Act will expire
- Any and all remaining health-care directives are lifted. This includes the use of N95 masks when working with suspected COVID-19 patients. The Ministry of Health will continue to direct any recommendations to health-care workers to wear personal protective equipment, and this will likely still include N95 masks

Sources:

1: [COVID-19: Vaccine Eligibility & Doses – City of Toronto](#)

2: [Quebec to offer 4th dose of COVID-19 vaccine to at-risk groups as cases, hospitalizations rise | Globalnews.ca](#)

3: [When is Ontario lifting all COVID-19 restrictions? | CTV News](#)

If you think you may be experiencing symptoms of COVID-19, take the self-assessment at www.ontario.ca/coronavirus. Follow all directions from your medical provider or your local health unit at the following phone numbers:

Telehealth Ontario: 1-866-797-0000

Toronto Public Health: 416-338-7600

Peel Public Health: 905-799-7700

Durham Region Health Department: 905-668-7711

York Region Public Health: 1-877-464-9675