



Sept 10, 2021 at 1pm

New required COVID-19 Immunization Policy

At Copernicus Lodge our goal has always been, and continues to be, to create the safest spaces possible for our residents, tenants, families, staff, physicians, students, volunteers, and community. It is our duty to care for and protect our residents and tenants who are at greater risk of health complications, hospitalizations and death due to COVID-19.

There is scientific evidence demonstrating the COVID-19 vaccines reduce your chances of contracting COVID-19 and keeps you from getting seriously ill if you do. Once you have had two doses and two weeks have passed, you are 80-90 percent less likely to become infected with the virus.

In the past few weeks we have already felt the impacts of the Fourth Wave of COVID-19 and we are determined to take every precaution reasonable in the circumstances for the protection of our Copernicus Lodge family from the hazard of COVID-19. That is why Copernicus Lodge, with the support of the Board of Directors, is implementing a Required COVID-19 Immunization Policy as a condition of employment for staff, physicians, students and volunteers effective September 13, 2021.

This policy is in line with directives imposed by several hospitals such as University Health Network, Sick Kids Hospital, Unity Health Toronto; as well as the City of Toronto, including all 10 City of Toronto LTC Homes, Toronto Police Services, and several for-profit LTC Homes.

The required COVID-19 immunization policy means staff, agency staff, physicians, volunteers, students and regular contractors are required to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, with the exception of those who have an approved medical exemption or human rights accommodation.

Aligned to the Ministry of Health's [Directive #6](#) the policy will be phased in as follows:

- Starting September 13, 2021 staff, physicians, volunteers and students who have not submitted COVID-19 vaccine receipts to Human Resources must show proof of full vaccination or undergo required testing of 1 PCR test every 7 days and rapid antigen testing onsite every other day.
- As of October 4, 2021 all staff will be required to have received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine or be placed on a temporary unpaid leave of absence or suspension of privileges.
- By November 4, 2021 staff and physicians must submit evidence of having received their second dose or be placed on a temporary unpaid leave of absence or suspension of privileges.
- Processes are being put in place to ensure compliance for students, volunteers and contracted workers.

It is our goal to reach 100% vaccination among our staff, agency staff, physicians, students and volunteers and to live up to our mission of "providing the highest quality of care and services to our aging community".

Any questions may be directed to communications@copernicuslodge.com.



Copernicus
A place to call home