Information sheet COVID-19: Swiss Covid certificate

This note complements the circular communications sent by the Swiss Mission and the FDFA Protocol in connection with measures taken by the Swiss authorities in response to the coronavirus (COVID-19). It specifies the modalities in force for applications for Swiss Covid certificates by persons vaccinated or cured from Covid abroad.

The information below is based on the COVID-19 certificate ordinance and on information provided by the competent cantonal authorities. It is subject to change at short notice.

The requirement to present a Swiss COVID certificate or compatible QR code currently applies to access public (indoor) establishments such as restaurants, cafés, cultural, leisure and sports facilities or events requiring a certificate.

Important note: Since the EU digital COVID certificate is recognised in Switzerland (QR code compatible), persons in possession of such a certificate do not have to apply for a Swiss certificate.

1. Issuance of a Swiss Covid certificate for persons vaccinated or cured abroad and living in Switzerland

Persons residing in Switzerland can obtain a Swiss Covid certificate if they have been fully vaccinated abroad with a vaccine authorised by the EMA or, under certain conditions¹, by the WHO protocol for emergency use (see summary below).

COVID-19 vaccines currently approved by the European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- Comirnaty® / BNT162b2 / Tozinameran (Pfizer/BioNTech)
- Spikevax® / mRNA-1273 / COVID-19 vaccine (Moderna)
- Vaxzevria® / AZD1222 / Covishield™ (AstraZeneca)
- COVID-19 Vaccine Janssen (Johnson & Johnson)

Vaccines authorised by the WHO in addition to those already on the EMA list
- SARS-CoV-2 Vaccine (Vero Cell) (Sinopharm / BIBP)
- CoronaVac (Sinovac)

Persons who have recovered from a SARS-CoV-2 infection that was confirmed by a positive PCR test abroad and is not more than 180 days old can also obtain a Swiss Covid certificate.

2. Issuance of a Swiss Covid certificate for persons vaccinated or cured abroad who enter Switzerland temporarily without permanent residence (e.g. delegates)

These persons also have the possibility of obtaining a Swiss Covid certificate, but only if they have been vaccinated with an EMA-approved vaccine or if they can prove by PCR test that they have been cured within the last 6 months.

¹See Art. 13, para. 2ter of the Ordinance on COVID-19 Certificates
3. **Procedure for applying for a Swiss COVID certificate**

Persons vaccinated or cured abroad who do not already have an EU digital COVID certificate can apply for a Swiss COVID certificate through the [national COVID certificate application platform](#) or through the competent authority of the canton in which they reside or are staying.

**Information required to complete the online application:**
- Information about your citizenship (e.g. copy of your passport or residence permit in Switzerland).
- Reason, duration and place of stay in Switzerland.
- Proof of residence or temporary stay, or proof of travel to Switzerland (e.g. plane ticket, train ticket or accommodation reservation).
- For vaccinated persons: confirmation of vaccination (e.g. vaccination certificate with indication of the vaccine, number of doses received, date of last vaccination and name of the issuing country).
- For people cured from Covid: information on the test center or institution where the test was conducted, the date and time of sample collection (not older than 180 days) and the type of test (only PCR tests are accepted).

**NB. The required documents must be written in the Latin alphabet, in French, German, Italian or English.**

« COVID Certificate » App

Download the "COVID Certificate" application for free from the [Apple App Store](#), [Google Play Store](#) and the [Huawei AppGallery](#). You can receive your certificate directly in the application.

For more information please refer to the [FOPH website](#).

**Processing times**

Processing times for certificate applications may vary from canton to canton and from period to period. The concerned authorities do their utmost to process applications as quickly as possible, but depending on the number of applications, processing times may be several days.

**People who plan to come to Switzerland and wish to obtain a Swiss Covid certificate are strongly advised to complete their online application early (ideally 2 to 3 weeks before their arrival), in order to receive their certificate before their trip.**

**Emolument**

The responsible authority is entitled to charge a fee for issuing a Swiss Covid certificate to non-residents.

4. **COVID certificate with PCR test valid for 72 hours or rapid antigen test valid for 48 hours**

People who have not been vaccinated or who have been vaccinated abroad with a vaccine not authorised by the EMA or the WHO can obtain a Covid certificate by carrying out a rapid PCR or antigenic test in a screening center, laboratory or pharmacy authorised to issue such certificates (Geneva, Vaud, Bern, Basel-City).

Since 11 October 2021, tests to obtain a Swiss Covid certificate will no longer be free. Those concerned will have to cover the costs (as an indication: CHF 50 for the rapid antigenic tests and CHF 150 for the PCR tests).

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Additional information is available on the Swiss Mission's website:

- Information note on the rules of entry into Switzerland for persons expected to work in an official capacity for international organisations and permanent missions;
- Information note on sanitary measures and border controls.