



ESA. THE BEST ARE READY.

September 28, 2021

**Chelsey Reid, Director**  
Chelsey.Reid@ESAcana.com

Attention: ESA Students

**Re: COVID-19- ESA Update- September 28, 2021:**

---

On Sept 15, 2021, the Alberta Government declared a state of public health emergency. COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations continued to rise, largely in unvaccinated Albertans. New measures to protect the health care system, stop the spread, and increase vaccination rates came into effect starting September 16.

Following this announcement, our Administrative team reviewed and enhanced our plan to ensure we were in compliance with the public health restrictions outlined in Order 42-2021. Over the past 2 weeks we have received numerous versions of the CMOH Orders and communication pieces from Alberta Advanced Education with revisions, additions, clarifications and exemptions. Thank you for your patience while we navigated our way through this information in order to make informed decisions on how best to proceed.

**Commencing Monday, October 4, 2021, ESA will be implementing the Proof of Vaccine Policy** that was approved as part of the exemption request from CMOH order 42-2021: cafeterias and physical distancing post-secondary institutions. This policy differs from the Restrictions Exemption Program that many businesses are following as it is not applicable to Post Secondary Institutions that are considered Out-of-Scope in Appendix A, including ESA.

A Proof of Vaccine Policy program for students must contain the following elements:

- (a) requires proof of vaccination which can include one or more of the following:
  - a. proof the student has been vaccinated with at least their first dose of a COVID-19 vaccine approved by the World Health Organization (WHO) no later than September 20, 2021 and be fully immunized with a COVID-19 vaccine approved by the WHO no later than November 1, 2021;
  - b. proof of a medical exemption; or
  - c. regular COVID-19 testing through privately paid testing.
- (b) The institution has put in place a compliance policy whereby it will monitor and ensure compliance and enforcement of its proof of vaccine policy.

Once ESA implements the Proof of Vaccine Policy an exemption from section 4.1, 10.1, and 10.3 of the Order will be granted which will allow exemption from the physical distancing requirements in the Order for students of the post-secondary institution. As below:

- IV. Where an eligible post-secondary educational institution has complied with paragraph II the students, faculty and staff of that eligible post-secondary educational institution are exempt from maintaining two

**EMERGENCY SERVICES ACADEMY LTD.**

2nd Floor, 161 Broadway Boulevard • Sherwood Park, AB T8H 2A8  
P. 780.416.8822 • [www.ESAcana.com](http://www.ESAcana.com)

metres physical distance from all other persons while in a learning environment, including but not limited to: classrooms, lecture halls, research facilities, and laboratories.

This exemption is critical for ESA programs to continue to operate in a meaningful way. Our Fire and EMS programs include high value, mandatory practical components where physical distancing is not possible. The Proof of Vaccine Policy will allow our students to continue to engage in fundamental, in person, hands on experiences that enhance student learning and supports competency attainment.

As detailed in the Proof of Vaccine Policy above, there are specific dates related to the first and second doses. These dates may or may not be attainable for some of our current students. We are willing to work with you individually to develop a plan that is achievable.

**EMR 2021-08, EMR 2021-10, EMRRF 2021-11, PCPRF 2021-09 and Fire 2021-08-**

**Please submit one of the following by Friday, October 1, 2021:**

1. Individual Vaccine Record- your vaccine record can be downloaded [HERE](#).
2. [Register Now](#) and provide confirmation of an appointment for your first or second dose. Date of appointment should be as soon as possible.
3. Proof of a [valid medical exemption](#).
4. Your intent to provide proof of a negative test (Submitting Monday and Thursday mornings).

This information will be kept private and confidential.

EMR-submit to [Kim Poole](#)

Fire- submit to [Kim Lee](#)

**Fire 2021-08-** Please note, as communicated on September 21, external practical sites have their own policies regarding vaccines, rapid testing etc. You will need to comply with the requirements of each site in order to complete your program.

**PCP 2021-09-** Please note, as communicated on September 19, individual vaccine records must be submitted to [Hillary Burton](#) by October 16, 2021. There are no exemptions or extensions for PCP students. This is a mandatory requirement by Alberta Health Services.

This Proof of Vaccine Policy will remain in effect until the Order is rescinded by the Chief Medical Officer of Health and an official announcement is made by ESA.

Masking and all other environmental controls will continue as directed by the CMOH.

We recognize that you may have additional questions beyond the information shared today, and we encourage you to continue to forward your questions to your Program Coordinator. We will respond as quickly and accurately as we can. Thank you for continuing to work together to maintain a safe learning and working environment.

Best regards,

**EMERGENCY SERVICES ACADEMY LTD.**



Chelsey Reid  
Director & Registrar

**EMERGENCY SERVICES ACADEMY LTD.**

