

Many hotels have questions about the new Restrictions Exemption Program (REP) announced by the Government of Alberta on September 15, 2021. The AHLA has put together an FAQ that will be updated regularly as new information is provided.

Q) Are hotels (excluding amenities) eligible for the REP?

A) Hotels are **not** eligible for REP as they are considered an essential service and therefore "out of scope." However, hotel amenities such as food & beverage outlets, fitness centres, meeting rooms, are considered "in scope" and are eligible for the REP.

Q) What is the ability of a hotel to implement REP selectively between different services in their property? Example, if a hotel has a restaurant and meeting rooms do they need to implement REP for all outlets or can they choose?

A) Hotels may choose which amenities they implement REP for, however once REP has been implemented, the hotel **cannot** un-implement the program on certain days/ times, etc.

Example, a hotel has multiple meeting rooms but they want to implement REP for only a few of them, this is NOT allowed under REP. The hotel must apply REP to all the meeting spaces in the hotel.

Example, a hotel has a fitness centre and a restaurant and they only wish to implement REP for the restaurant and not the pool, this IS allowed under REP so long as the hotel keeps REP in place for the restaurant at all times.

Q) What does my hotel need to do to participate in the REP?

A) You must have someone at the point of entry of a business or space to do screening.

1. **You must screen every person** for one of the following:
 - a. Proof of vaccination
 - b. Proof of a privately paid for negative COVID-19 test result that was taken within the past 72 hours
 - c. Original vaccine medical exception letter.
2. **You must verify that they have an acceptable immunization document:**
 - a. Picture or paper record of a valid Alberta Health Services, MyHealth Records, pharmacy, First Nations, or physician immunization record prominently displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration
 - b. Valid Government of Alberta vaccination QR code
 - c. An immunization record from another Canadian province or territory displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration
 - d. Canadian armed forces immunization record, displaying the name, type of vaccine and date of administration.

- e. For international travelers, an ArriveCan app and a valid international travel identity document is acceptable as proof of vaccination

Q) How can my business prove we check vaccination records?

A) You will need to implement a protocol where you show your staff has checked for POV in a consistent manner.

Example: you could have a form at the front entrance of your business where the guest's names are recorded, ask for a signature, date, name of event, and tick a box showing that POV was shown and personal ID was checked. Keep for your records

Q) What are some ways I can allow access to guests at my hotel who have shown proof of vaccination (POV) and restrict access to those who did not show POV?

A) You can do the following:

1. For guests with POV:
 - a. You could implement a wristband system
 - b. Give special cards that guests need to show upon entry
 - c. Station hosts outside areas that have implemented REP to check for POV
2. For guests without POV
 - a. Provide alternate color wristband
 - b. Provide special menu card for in room dining so guests can still be served food in their rooms.

Q) What do I do if a guest says they have a medical exemption?

A) You must ask for a medical exemption letter that states they suffer from one of the below conditions:

Medical Exemption Definition: means the following mental or physical limitations: i. sensory processing disorders; ii. developmental delays; iii. mental illnesses including: anxiety disorders; psychotic disorders; dissociative identity disorder; and depressive disorders; iv. facial trauma or recent oral maxillofacial surgery; v. contact dermatitis or allergic reactions to face mask components; or vi. clinically significant acute respiratory distress. [CMHO-42-2021 Part 2.1.t.]

The medical exemption letter must contain:

- o the name of the person to whom the exception applies
- o the name, phone number, email address, professional registration number, and signature of the authorizing health professional
- o the date on which the written confirmation was provided.