

# The NHS App, COVID-19 status, and online GP services

<https://www.nhs.uk/nhs-services/online-services/nhs-app/about-the-nhs-app/>

You can now prove your COVID-19 vaccination status

- when travelling abroad, and
- when attending large/mass gatherings within the UK, such as football matches and other sporting events, concerts, nightclubs etc

You can do this via the NHS App, which you can access through a mobile device such as a smartphone or tablet, or a computer.

An NHS COVID Pass shows your coronavirus (COVID-19) vaccination details or test results. This is your "COVID-19 status".

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-pass/>

## Domestic

You may need to show your NHS COVID Pass at places that have chosen to use the service.

## Travel

You may need to share your NHS COVID Pass when travelling abroad

If you're aged 16 or over, you can get an NHS COVID Pass for travel abroad.

If you're aged 18 or over, you can get an NHS COVID Pass for domestic events.

The NHS COVID Pass is not available for children under the age of 16. Children under the age of 18 do not need to show a COVID Pass to get into venues in England.

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## COVID Pass – Travel abroad

### What you need to get a pass

1 or 2 doses of a COVID-19 vaccine used in the UK

### When you can get a pass

Usually within 24 hours of having your vaccination – however it can take up to 5 days for your records to be updated

## COVID Pass – Domestic events

### What you need to get a pass

to be fully vaccinated with a COVID-19 vaccine used in the UK

### When you can get a pass

2 weeks after your 2nd dose, or 2 weeks after 1 dose of the Janssen vaccine

Negative PCR test or rapid lateral flow test within the past 48 hours

As soon as you get your result

If you did a rapid lateral flow test at home, [report your rapid lateral flow test result on GOV.UK](#) first

Positive PCR test within the past 6 months

After you've finished self-isolating and up to 180 days after taking the test

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There are other “digital” ways to prove your vaccination status, without needing either a smartphone or the NHS App, if you so wish:

- You can view and download your COVID-19 vaccination status online <https://covid-status.service.nhs.uk/>

If you've had:

- a vaccine used in the UK – your pass lasts for 30 days, but the 30-day period refreshes every time you log in
- a negative PCR test or rapid lateral flow test – your pass is valid for 48 hours after a negative result
- a positive PCR test – your pass lasts 30 days, but the 30-day period refreshes every time you log in (for up to 180 days after you took the test)

If you download your COVID Pass as a PDF, always check the expiry date before using it.

If you're fully vaccinated or had a positive test result, the barcode on a PDF is valid for 30 days.

*“Non-digital”*

- You can call 119 and ask for a letter with your COVID-19 vaccination status to be posted to you, or
- You can request the COVID Pass letter online <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/covid-pass/get-your-covid-pass-letter/>
- This is also known as a *COVID-19 post vaccination letter*  
The paper version does not have an expiry date
- This shows you've been vaccinated against COVID-19  
It does not show COVID-19 test results
- You can ask for a letter after having your 2nd dose of the vaccine, or after a single-dose Janssen vaccine
- This must be at least 5 working days after you've completed your course of the vaccine
- Expect the letter to take up to 5 working days to reach you

Please do not contact your GP surgery about your COVID-19 vaccination status.

GPs CANNOT provide letters showing your COVID-19 vaccination status. They will not be accepted as proof of vaccination.

# The NHS App, COVID-19 status, and online GP services

## The NHS App is easy to use:

- You do not need to contact your surgery to download, install, self-register, and start using the NHS App
- You do not need to contact your surgery to enable seeing your COVID-19 vaccinations within the app
- You can download your COVID-19 vaccination details as a pdf, including a QR code, or have it sent to you by email

You can use the NHS App, without ever downloading your COVID-19 vaccination details, and only for GP online services.

You can go online to request your vaccination status, or ring 119, as above, instead.

By default, the NHS App will now show you:

- your COVID-19 vaccination history
- your COVID-19 lateral flow test and PCR test history
- your allergies and medication ("core summary care record")
- your NHS number

It will by default:

- allow you to book appointments online (when available)
- allow you to request repeat medication
- allow you to update your contact details (mobile, phone number etc)
- allow you to register your organ donation decision
- allow you to set your National Data Opt Out (see below)
- provide you with general health advice
- help you get advice about coronavirus

And, **if you specifically request it** (*this is the only time that you will need to contact your GP surgery regarding the NHS App*):

- securely view your detailed electronic GP record
- so allowing you to check the results of any blood tests or x-rays requested by your GP, download them, print them off at home, take them to hospital appointments etc.
- and allow you to show your GP record to any healthcare professional providing you with medical care - anywhere in the world

[Our Online Access Registration Form \(aged 16+\)](#)

(if you want access to your detailed GP medical record, and/or wish to use an alternative online access app)

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If you are looking to enable online access for someone under the age of 16, or as a "proxy" on behalf of someone aged 16+, then please do ask at one of our three surgery sites for information on how to do this.

The NHS App also (and by default) allows you to:

- **set your National Data Opt Out preference**

which determines how organisations (at present, principally NHS Digital) can use and disseminate information that they *already* hold about you. Information about the National Data Opt Out (and links to further information) [can be found on our website](#):

Please note that setting your National Data Opt Out will **not** prohibit the extraction and uploading of your GP record to NHS Digital as part of the forthcoming [General Practice Data for Planning and Research \(GPDPR\)](#) project.

The GPDPR project has been *delayed* – but **not** cancelled. You can continue to opt-out of this, *now*, if you so wish.

To prohibit the use of your personal information in this way, [you need to register a Type 1 opt-out at the surgery](#).

If you would like any further information about the NHS App, COVID-19 vaccination certificates, secure online records access, the National Data Opt Out, Type 1 opt-outs, GPDPR, or any other aspect of data sharing/privacy/confidentiality of your GP records, then please contact the surgery's Caldicott Guardian and Data Protection Officer:

Dr Neil Bhatia\_  
[Neil.Bhatia@nhs.net](mailto:Neil.Bhatia@nhs.net)