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COVID-19 vaccination FAQs: students in Higher Education Institutions

How will students be invited for the COVID-19 vaccination?

The COVID-19 vaccination is being offered to everyone aged 18 or over at local sites run by GPs or community pharmacies, at larger vaccination centres and in some hospitals. Local

convenient for students to access, for example, on university campuses.

Students registered with a GP can book their appointment at a larger vaccination centre, a community pharmacy run site or at some GP run sites through the [National Booking Service](#) website or by phoning 119.

Those who are registered with a GP will also receive an invitation to be vaccinated from their GP practice.

While [registration with a GP](#) is encouraged to access the vaccine, individuals can request to book COVID-19 vaccination appointments as an unregistered patient through a local GP practice. GP practices should support unregistered patients and those without an NHS number to access the vaccine; they can record these vaccinations and be paid for them.

Some students may have already received their vaccinations if they are at higher risk of COVID-19, are on a placement as a frontline health or care worker, are an unpaid carer, or are a household contact of someone who is immunosuppressed.

What do students do if they are registered with a GP in their hometown, but not where they study, or vice versa?

If a student aged 18 or over is registered with a GP practice, they can book both appointments online through the [National Booking Service](#) at a location that is convenient to them, or book a first dose through their GP and a second dose in a different location through the National Booking Service.

How can students access their second dose if they are in a different location to where they had their first dose?

We have published FAQs on Second Doses in general [here](#).

In general, patients should return to the place they had their first dose to have their second dose. However, it is appropriate for students to receive their second dose in a different location to their first dose due to their circumstances. The National Booking Service has an option to book or re-arrange the second vaccination appointment at a different location to the first appointment.

If a student had a first dose in Wales, Scotland or Northern Ireland, but is in England at the time of their second dose, they should either 1) book a second dose through the National Booking Service (if they are registered with a GP in England and therefore have an English NHS number); 2) register with a GP in England and book an appointment that way; or 3) approach a local GP and ask to be vaccinated as an unregistered patient.

We are working with the NHS in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales to ensure that

Can students due to start a health or social care placement be vaccinated before their placement starts?

All adults in the UK aged 18 or over should be offered their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine by 19 July 2021.

Anyone who starts working in the NHS or in social care and has not been vaccinated should be offered the vaccination through occupational health departments or be aware of where they can access the vaccination through their employer.

The second dose should not be brought forward in these circumstances.

What if a student is eligible for their first dose in England, but will be abroad for their second dose (e.g overseas placement)?

The student should contact the health service in the country where they are resident at the time the second dose is due.

How can students obtain a COVID vaccine certificate?

There is information on GOV.uk [here](#) about COVID vaccine certification.

Where can students find more information?

Students should be directed to nhs.uk/covid-vaccination for more information about the COVID-19 vaccination.

International students FAQs

Are international students eligible for the vaccination?

Anybody aged 18 or over in the UK is eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination for free, regardless of their nationality or immigration status.

Do international students need to pay for the vaccine?

Nobody in England has to pay for the COVID-19 vaccination. The COVID-19 vaccination is free of charge and does not count as the kind of care that requires payment.

International students or anyone seeing requests for payment should report [nhs.uk/COVID-19-vaccination](#) or call 111.

Are any dependents of international students also eligible for the COVID-19 vaccination?