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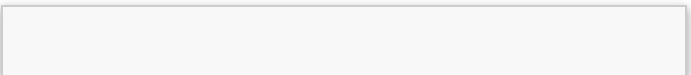
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State government policies about vaccine requirements (vaccine passports), 2021-2022

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Proof-of-vaccination requirements were business or



government policies that required people to provide evidence they had been vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus. State governments enacted various rules around the use of proof-of-vaccination requirements in their states during the COVID-19 pandemic, such as banning proof-of-vaccination requirements in some circumstances or implementing policies—sometimes called vaccine passports—that allowed vaccinated people to bypass COVID-19 restrictions or engage in activities unavailable to unvaccinated people.

This page was updated weekly from the time the COVID-19 vaccines became widely available in 2021 through the end of 2022 and no longer receives regular updates.

Overall, **20** states, all with [Republican](#) governors, prohibited proof-of-vaccination requirements. In **11** of those states, governors banned proof-of-vaccination requirements through executive orders. In **nine** of those states, legislators passed laws banning proof-of-vaccination requirements.

Six states—California, Illinois, New York, Hawaii, and Oregon, and Washington—facilitated the creation of digital vaccination status applications or passed laws or enacted orders exempting fully vaccinated individuals from some COVID-19 restrictions if they could provide proof of vaccination. All six states had [Democratic governors](#).

On this page you will find:

- [A map and timeline of state proof-of-vaccination requirements](#)
- [A list of bills and resolutions being considered on this topic](#)
- [A timeline of events](#)

Ballotpedia's [coverage](#) of COVID-19 included how federal, state, and local governments responded to the pandemic, and how those responses influenced election rules and operations, political campaigns, the economy, schools, and more.

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Responses by state

Alabama ▼ Submit

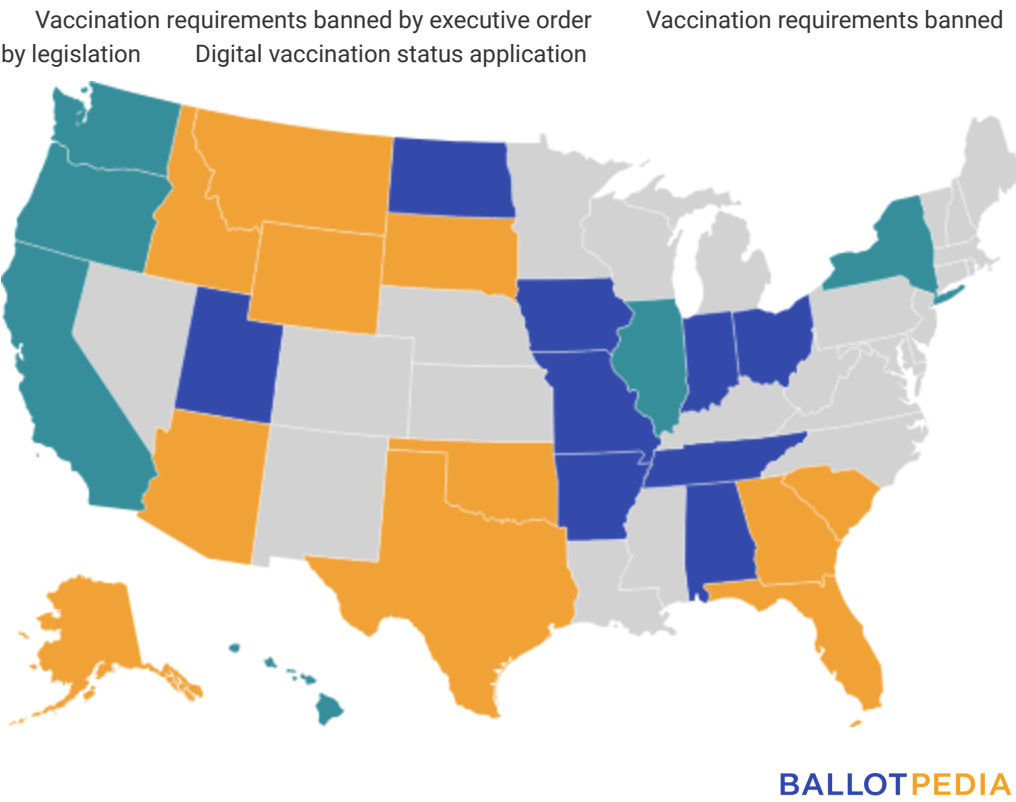
State proof-of-vaccination policies

Twenty states banned proof-of-vaccination requirements. All 20 states—Alabama, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Iowa, Missouri, Montana, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, and Wyoming—had Republican governors. In total, 20 out of the 27 states with [Republican governors](#) prohibited proof-of-vaccination requirements through executive orders or legislation. Seven states with Republican governors—Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Hampshire, Vermont, West Virginia—had not prohibited proof-of-vaccination requirements at any level of government at the time this page was last updated.

Six states facilitated the creation of digital vaccination status applications or proof-of-vaccination programs or passed laws or enacted orders allowing fully vaccinated people to bypass some coronavirus restrictions. All six states—California, Hawaii, Illinois, New York, and Oregon, and Washington—had [Democratic governors](#). Seventeen states with Democratic governors neither prohibited nor facilitated proof-of-vaccination requirements at any level of government at the time this page was last updated in 2022.

The following map shows the states that prohibited proof-of-vaccination requirements through executive orders or legislation. It also shows the states that implemented proof-of-vaccination requirements for some activities.

State proof-of-vaccination policies



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The following table shows the states that prohibited proof-of-vaccination requirements through executive orders or legislation. It also shows the states that implemented proof-of-vaccination requirements for some activities.

Vaccination policies by state			
State	Governor party affiliation	Proof-of-vaccination requirements?	Policy

Alabama	R	Prohibit	Gov. Kay Ivey (R) signed a bill prohibiting government agencies from issuing documentation to certify vaccine status or requiring that people show proof of vaccination. The bill also prohibited private businesses from requiring proof of vaccination. ^[1]
Alaska	R	Prohibit	Governor Mike Dunleavy (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination as a requirement to travel around the state. ^[2]
Arizona	R	Prohibit	Gov. Doug Ducey (R) issued an order prohibiting state and local governments and agencies from requiring people to prove their vaccine status. ^[3]
Arkansas	R	Prohibit	Gov. Asa Hutchinson (R) signed a law prohibiting state and local governments and agencies from requiring proof of vaccination to access services. ^[4]
California	D	Permit	The California Department of Public Health and Technology launched the Digital COVID-19 Vaccine Record portal, a website allowing residents to upload a digital copy of their vaccination record. ^[5]
Florida	R	Prohibit	Gov. Ron DeSantis (R) issued an order prohibiting state and local governments from issuing documentation to certify vaccine status. The order also prohibited private businesses from requiring customers to prove their vaccine status. ^[6]
Georgia	R	Prohibit	Gov. Brian Kemp (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination to access facilities or receive services. The order also said no proof of vaccination would be required to enter Georgia. ^[7]
Hawaii	D	Permit	Fully vaccinated individuals could travel between islands without quarantining or presenting a negative COVID-19 test. ^[8]
Idaho	R	Prohibit	Gov. Brad Little (R) issued an executive order prohibiting state agencies from requiring that people reveal their COVID-19 vaccination status to access buildings or property. ^[9]
Illinois	D	Permit	On August 11, 2021, the Illinois Department of Public Health launched Vax Verify, a website portal that allowed residents to access a digital vaccination card. ^[10]
Indiana	R	Prohibit	Gov. Eric Holcomb (R) signed a bill that included language prohibiting state and local government agencies from requiring anyone, including employees, to show proof of COVID-19 vaccination. ^[11]
Iowa	R	Prohibit	Iowa Gov. Kim Reynolds (R) signed a bill prohibiting businesses or government agencies that require proof of vaccination as a condition for receiving services or entering the premises from receiving state government grants or

			contracts. The bill also prohibited state and local governments from issuing COVID-19 identification cards. ^[12]
Missouri	R	Prohibit	Missouri Gov. Mike Parson (R) signed House Bill 271, a bill prohibiting county and local governments that received public funding from requiring proof of vaccination in order to receive government services or access public transportation. ^[13]
Montana	R	Prohibit	Montana Gov. Greg Gianforte (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring that people reveal their COVID-19 vaccination status to access buildings or property. The order also applied to private businesses. ^[14]
New York	D	Permit	New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo (D) launched Excelsior Pass, an voluntary app that allowed people to upload negative COVID-19 test results or proof of vaccination. People could use the app to access sections at outdoor venues reserved for fully vaccinated individuals. ^[15]
North Dakota	R	Prohibit	Gov. Doug Burgum (R) signed House Bill 1465, which banned state and local governments and most businesses from requiring proof of vaccination as a condition to receive services. The bill exempted health care organizations from the ban. ^[16]
Ohio	R	Prohibit	Gov. Mike DeWine (R) signed House Bill 244, which prohibited public K-12 schools, colleges, and universities from requiring that students or staff get a COVID-19 vaccine. ^[17]
Oklahoma	R	Prohibit	Governor Kevin Stitt (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring that people show proof of vaccination to enter public buildings. ^[18]
Oregon	D	Permit	The Oregon Health Authority released guidance allowing businesses that verify customer vaccine status to allow fully vaccinated customers to go without masks while indoors. Businesses that do not verify vaccine status are still required to maintain an indoor mask requirement for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. ^[19]
South Carolina	R	Prohibit	Gov. Henry McMaster (R) signed House Bill 3126. The bill prohibited public employers and public schools from requiring employees or students to be vaccinated. The law permitted private employers from requiring vaccination so long as they also allowed for broad religious and medical exemptions. ^[20] ^[21] ^[22] Previously, McMaster had issued an order that prohibited state and local government agencies from requiring proof of vaccination. ^[23]
South Dakota	R	Prohibit	Gov. Kristi Noem (R) issued an order prohibiting state and local agencies from requiring that people show proof of vaccination. ^[24]

Tennessee	R	Prohibit	Governor Bill Lee (R) signed Senate Bill 0858, which prohibited state or local government departments or officials from requiring that people show proof of vaccination to enter government buildings or properties. [25] [26]
Texas	R	Prohibit	Gov. Greg Abbott (R) issued an order that prohibited government agencies, as well as businesses and institutions that received state funding, from requiring that people show proof of documentation. [27] Abbott also signed a bill on June 7 that prohibited government agencies and businesses from requiring proof of vaccination to receive services or enter the premises. [28] On October 11, 2021, Abbott issued an order prohibiting all public and private organizations and businesses from requiring customers or employees to get a COVID-19 vaccine if they objected on personal, religious, or medical grounds. [29]
Utah	R	Prohibit	Gov. Spencer Cox (R) signed House Bill 308, which prohibited state agencies and public universities from requiring people to receive a COVID-19 vaccine or show proof of vaccination. [30]
Washington	D	Permit	Gov. Jay Inslee (D) issued an order requiring indoor events with more than 1,000 attendees and outdoor events with more than 10,000 attendees to verify that people 12 and older have received a COVID-19 vaccine or tested negative for COVID-19 within the last 72 hours. The order took effect November 15, 2021. [31]
Wyoming	R	Prohibit	Gov. Mark Gordon (R) issued a directive prohibiting state agencies, boards, and commissions from requiring proof of vaccination to receive services. [32]

Legislation related to proof-of-vaccination requirements

This list displayed bills and resolutions related to proof-of-vaccination requirements that were being considered in each state in 2021 and 2022. Click on a bill to read more about it. The information was provided by [BillTrack50.com](#)

Timeline

The timeline below displayed activity involving proof-of-vaccination requirements from March 2021 to April 2022.

- **April 25, 2022:** South Carolina Gov. [Henry McMaster](#) (R) signed House Bill 3126. The bill prohibited public employers and public schools from requiring employees or students to be vaccinated. The law permitted private employers to require vaccination so long as they also allowed for broad religious and medical exemptions. [\[33\]](#)[\[34\]](#)[\[35\]](#)
- **November 12, 2021:** North Dakota Gov. [Doug Burgum](#) (R) signed House Bill 1511. The bill prohibited state and local governments from requiring COVID-19 vaccines. [\[36\]](#)

- **October 18, 2021:** Washington Gov. [Jay Inslee](#) (D) issued an order requiring indoor events with more than 1,000 attendees and outdoor events with more than 10,000 attendees to verify that people 12 and older had received a COVID-19 vaccine or tested negative for COVID-19 within the last 72 hours. The order took effect November 15, 2021. [\[37\]](#)
- **October 13, 2021:** Arkansas Gov. [Asa Hutchinson](#) (R) allowed Senate Bill 739/House Bill 1977 to become law without his signature. The law required employers to allow workers to opt out of vaccine requirements if they underwent weekly COVID-19 testing or proved they'd had a prior infection. The law was scheduled to take effect 90 days after enactment. [\[38\]](#)[\[39\]](#)
- **October 11, 2021:** Texas Gov. [Greg Abbott](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting public and private organizations and businesses from requiring customers or employees to get a COVID-19 vaccine if they objected on personal, religious, or medical grounds. [\[40\]](#)
- **August 3, 2021:** New York City Mayor [Bill de Blasio](#) (D) announced that patrons and staff would need to provide proof of vaccination at indoor businesses, such as restaurants, gyms, and entertainment venues, starting on Sept. 13. [\[41\]](#)
- **July 29, 2021:** Texas Gov. [Greg Abbott](#) (R) issued an order that underscored a previous prohibition on proof-of-vaccination requirements. Executive Order No. GA-38 banned government entities at the state, county, and local levels and private entities that received public funding from asking people to prove their vaccination status. The order also prohibited government entities from requiring that people get vaccinated. Like Abbot's previous one, the order did not apply to nursing homes. Abbott banned proof-of-vaccination requirements on April 6, 2021. [\[42\]](#)[\[43\]](#)
- **July 14, 2021:** Ohio Gov. [Mike DeWine](#) (R) signed House Bill 244, which prohibited public K-12 schools, colleges, and universities from requiring that students or staff get a COVID-19 vaccine. [\[44\]](#)
- **June 18, 2021:** The California Department of Public Health and Technology launched the Digital COVID-19 Vaccine Record portal, a website that allowed residents to upload a digital copy of their vaccination record. [\[45\]](#)
- **June 15, 2021:** Missouri Gov. [Mike Parson](#) (R) signed House Bill 271, a bill prohibiting county and local governments that received public funding from requiring proof of vaccination in order to receive government services or access public transportation. [\[46\]](#)
- **June 7, 2021:** Texas Gov. [Greg Abbott](#) (R) signed a bill prohibiting state and local government agencies from issuing COVID-19 documentation that could be used to verify a person's vaccination status. The bill also prohibited government agencies and businesses from requiring proof of vaccination to receive services or enter the premises. [\[47\]](#)
- **May 28, 2021:** Oklahoma Gov. [Kevin Stitt](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring that people show proof of vaccination to enter public buildings. [\[48\]](#)
- **May 26, 2021:** Tennessee Gov. [Bill Lee](#) (R) signed Senate Bill 0858, which prohibited state or local government departments or officials from requiring that people show proof of vaccination to enter government buildings or properties. [\[49\]](#)[\[50\]](#)
- **May 26, 2021:** Georgia Gov. [Brian Kemp](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination to access facilities or receive services. The order also said no proof of vaccination would be required to enter Georgia. [\[51\]](#)
- **May 24, 2021:** Alabama Gov. [Kay Ivey](#) (R) signed Senate Bill 267, which prohibited state and local governments from issuing documentation to certify an individual's vaccine status. The bill also prevented state and local governments and private businesses from denying people goods or services or admission for not having proof of vaccination. [\[52\]](#)
- **May 20, 2021:** Iowa Gov. [Kim Reynolds](#) (R) signed a bill prohibiting businesses or government agencies that require proof of vaccination as a condition for receiving services or entering the premises from receiving state government grants or contracts. The bill also prohibited state and local governments from issuing COVID-19 identification cards. [\[53\]](#)
- **May 20, 2021:** Gov. [Doug Burgum](#) (R) signed House Bill 1465, which banned state and local governments and most businesses from requiring proof of vaccination as a condition to receive services. The bill

- exempted health care organizations from the ban. [\[54\]](#)
- **May 18, 2021:** The Oregon Health Authority released guidance allowing businesses that verify customer vaccine status to allow fully vaccinated customers to go without masks while indoors. Businesses that did not verify vaccine status were still required to maintain an indoor mask requirement for vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. [\[55\]](#)
 - **May 11, 2021:** A program that allowed fully vaccinated individuals in Hawaii to travel between islands without quarantining or presenting a negative COVID-19 test went into effect. Travelers could upload proof of vaccination to the "Safe Travel's" website or show their vaccine card at the airport. [\[56\]](#)
 - **May 11, 2021:** South Carolina Gov. [Henry McMaster](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting any local government, state agency, or state employee from requiring proof of vaccination to access government services or facilities. [\[57\]](#)
 - **May 7, 2021:** Wyoming Gov. Mark Gordon (R) issued a directive prohibiting state agencies, boards, and commissions from requiring proof of vaccination to receive services. [\[58\]](#)
 - **May 5, 2021:** New York Gov. [Andrew Cuomo](#) (D) announced that large-scale outdoor event venues could allow fully vaccinated people to sit together without social distancing in designated areas. Eligible attendees would need to provide proof of vaccination through the Excelsior application or in paper form. Cuomo also said the state would pilot allowing large-scale indoor event venues to designate certain areas for fully vaccinated individuals beginning June 19. [\[59\]](#)
 - **April 26, 2021:** Governor [Mike Dunleavy](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring proof of vaccination as a requirement to travel around the state. [\[60\]](#)
 - **April 19, 2021:** Arizona Gov. [Doug Ducey](#) (R) signed an order prohibiting all state and local government agencies from requiring individuals to provide their vaccination status to access facilities and services. Private businesses could still require proof of vaccination as a condition of service or entry. [\[61\]](#)
 - **April 13, 2021:** Montana Gov. [Greg Gianforte](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting state agencies from requiring that people reveal their COVID-19 vaccination status to access buildings or property. The order also prohibited businesses from requiring customers show proof of vaccination to gain entry or access services. [\[62\]](#)
 - **April 7, 2021:** Idaho Gov. [Brad Little](#) (R) issued an executive order prohibiting state agencies from requiring that people reveal their COVID-19 vaccination status to access buildings or property. [\[63\]](#)
 - **April 6, 2021:** Texas Gov. [Greg Abbott](#) (R) issued an order prohibiting government agencies, businesses, and institutions that receive state funding from requiring people to show proof they've received a coronavirus vaccine. [\[64\]](#)
 - **April 2, 2021:** Florida Gov. [Ron DeSantis](#) (R) issued an order banning government entities from issuing vaccine passports. The order also prohibited businesses from requiring vaccine passports. [\[65\]](#)
 - **March 26, 2021:** New York Gov. [Andrew Cuomo](#) (D) announced the launch of Excelsior Pass, an app that provided digital proof of vaccination or a negative coronavirus test. The app was optional for individuals and businesses that required such proof to allow people to enter (like wedding reception, concert, or sports venues). [\[66\]](#)
 - **March 16, 2021:** Gov. [Spencer Cox](#) (R) signed House Bill 308, which prohibited state agencies and public universities from requiring people to receive a COVID-19 vaccine or show proof of vaccination. [\[67\]](#)[\[68\]](#)

See also

- [Documenting America's Path to Recovery](#)
- [COVID-19 vaccine distribution](#)
- [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) travel restrictions](#)
- [Officeholders and candidates diagnosed with, dead from, or quarantined because of coronavirus](#)
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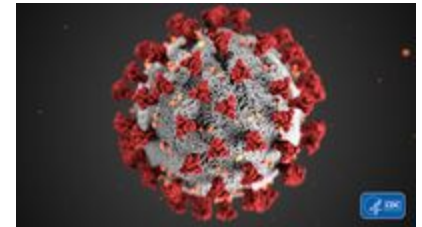
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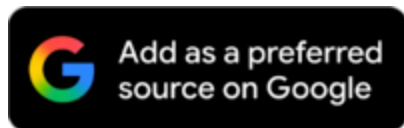
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