



**Protocol and Host Country Affairs Department**  
**DPG-Min-BuZa.2021.10996-16**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to all diplomatic missions and International Organisations in the Netherlands and has the honour to inform them as follows.

**COVID-19 vaccination booster campaign**

On 14 December 2021, the Dutch government announced that it intends to speed up the COVID-19 vaccination booster campaign. The government plans to have offered a booster vaccination to all persons aged 18 and over before February 2022.

***Eligibility for a booster vaccine***

All staff members of diplomatic missions and International Organisations as well as the persons forming part of their official household are eligible for a booster vaccination. For medical reasons, a COVID-19 booster vaccination can be administered a minimum of 3 months after the last COVID-19 vaccination or infection.

The GGD will ask all persons to show their Digital Covid Certificate (DCC) at the appointment to receive the booster vaccination.

***Order of vaccination***

Booster vaccinations are offered from old to young. Currently all persons aged 60 and over are being invited for their booster vaccination. Afterwards, persons aged 60 and below will be invited from old to young.

In addition, as of 23 December 2021, persons who belong to a "medical risk group" (in this case, meaning persons who are included in the annual flu vaccination campaign) will – as much as possible – be proactively contacted by SMS for a priority vaccination.

**Making an appointment**

The procedure for making an appointment may differ on the basis of where a person received their first COVID-19 vaccination(s).

***1. Persons who were (partly) vaccinated as part of the Dutch national vaccination campaign***

The National Institute for Public Health and the Environment (RIVM) is distributing invitation letters to all persons who have received at least one COVID-19 vaccination dose as part of the Dutch national vaccination campaign. This also counts for persons who received their first dose abroad and their second dose in the Netherlands, and vice versa. The invitation letter explains how to make an appointment.

***Making an appointment online***

Persons who have a DigiD (personalized digital identification method) can make an appointment online. Appointments can be booked via the following website: [coronavaccinatie-afspraak.nl](https://coronavaccinatie-afspraak.nl). The online module is accessible as soon as the age group to which a person belongs is due for vaccination. Persons making use of the online appointment system do not need to wait for the arrival of their invitation letter to make an appointment.

The RIVM announces on its website which age groups are able to make an appointment for their vaccination: [www.rivm.nl/en/covid-19-vaccination/news](https://www.rivm.nl/en/covid-19-vaccination/news). Additional age groups are added regularly. As soon as new age groups are added, the Minister of Health makes an announcement on Twitter (@hugodejonge).

#### Making an appointment via telephone

Persons who do not have a DigiD can make an appointment by calling the GGD call centre. They can call for an appointment as soon as they have received their RIVM invitation letter at their home address. The telephone number is mentioned in their letter.

The Ministry urges all staff and their household members not to call the GGD for an appointment ahead of time: appointments made for age groups who are not yet due will be cancelled.

### **2. Persons who were completely vaccinated outside the Dutch national vaccination campaign**

Persons who did not receive a first or second COVID-19 vaccination dose in the Netherlands will not receive an invitation letter from the RIVM for a booster vaccination. They are entitled, however, to receive a booster vaccination and can make a booster vaccination appointment as soon as the age group to which they belong is due.

#### Making an appointment online

The same procedure via DigiD applies as for persons vaccinated as part of the Dutch national vaccination campaign (see above).

#### Making an appointment via telephone

Persons who do not have a DigiD can make an appointment by calling the GGD call centre. They can call for an appointment as soon as the RIVM has distributed the invitation letters to the persons within that age group. There is a time-lag of approximately one week between when the RIVM announces that a specific age group can make an appointment and when the invitation letters for that age group have been delivered to these persons' home addresses. The Ministry urges all staff and their household members not to call the GGD for an appointment ahead of time: appointments made for age groups who are not yet due will be cancelled. The telephone number for making an appointment is: 0800-7070.

### **For all persons: How to obtain a DigiD (for making online vaccination appointments)**

The Ministry is aware that many privileged persons registered with Probas may not yet have a DigiD. The Ministry wishes to underline that everybody will have access to a booster vaccination, regardless of whether or not a person is in possession of a DigiD or not. The only difference is that online appointments can be made earlier than via telephone. Persons who are interested in obtaining a DigiD may adhere to the following procedure:

#### *A: Persons with an EU/EEA-nationality*

Persons with an EU/EEA-nationality can apply for a DigiD online. These people may submit their application online via the following website [digid.nl/en/aanvragen\\_buitenland](https://digid.nl/en/aanvragen_buitenland). After having applied online, a person will receive a personalized code by SMS/email. They need this code to pick up their DigiD activation code at a DigiD service desk, together with their passport and BSN (citizen registration number, which is stated on the back of their MFA ID Card). All DigiD service desks are listed on [www.digid.nl/en/living-abroad/service-desks](https://www.digid.nl/en/living-abroad/service-desks). There is a DigiD service desk at The Hague city hall, which can be contacted via +31 70 353 30 00. Waiting times may apply. More detailed instructions are posted here: [www.digid.nl/en/living-abroad](https://www.digid.nl/en/living-abroad).

*B: Persons with all other nationalities*

Persons with a non EU/EEA-nationality must first register with a municipality before being able to apply for a DigiD. After having registered with their municipality, a person can register for a DigiD online via the regular procedure. Instructions for how to apply for a DigiD are available on the following website: [www.digid.nl/en/apply-or-activate-digid](http://www.digid.nl/en/apply-or-activate-digid). Applications can be submitted online on [digid.nl/en/aanvragen](http://digid.nl/en/aanvragen) and are usually processed within three working days.

## **Registration of COVID-19 booster vaccinations**

### ***1. Persons who were vaccinated as part of the Dutch national vaccination campaign***

Persons who were vaccinated as part of the Dutch national vaccination campaign and who opt to receive a booster vaccination as part of the Dutch booster campaign, will have their booster vaccination added to their DCC. For instructions regarding how to obtain a DCC after a person was vaccinated as part of the Dutch national vaccination campaign, the Ministry refers to its Note Verbale no. DPG-Min-BuZa.2021.8820-55 of 26 July 2021.

### ***2. Persons who were partly or completely vaccinated outside the Dutch national vaccination campaign***

The Ministry of Health is currently not able to confirm which registration procedure is to be followed by persons who have received one or two doses of their basic series of COVID-19 vaccinations outside the Netherlands and who opt to receive a booster vaccination in the Netherlands. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs is very much aware of the importance of accurate and timely registration of booster vaccinations for staff of diplomatic missions and International Organisations in order for them to receive a DCC. The Ministry wishes to underline that it is doing all it can to obtain clarity on this matter and that it will provide additional information in this regard as soon as possible.

## **Further information**

Diplomatic missions and International Organisations are advised to consult the following websites for:

- Making a booster vaccination appointment online (with DigiD only): [coronavaccinatie-afpraak.nl](http://coronavaccinatie-afpraak.nl)
- Updates from the RIVM about the booster vaccination campaign: [www.rivm.nl/en/covid-19-vaccination/news](http://www.rivm.nl/en/covid-19-vaccination/news)
- Twitter updates from the Minister of Health about the booster vaccination campaign: [twitter.com/hugodejonge](https://twitter.com/hugodejonge)
- Regular updates from the Dutch government about the booster vaccination campaign: [www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/dutch-vaccination-programme](http://www.government.nl/topics/coronavirus-covid-19/dutch-vaccination-programme)

Questions specifically pertaining to diplomatic missions and International Organisations which have not yet been addressed on the abovementioned websites or by the Ministry's earlier Notes Verbales may be addressed to [REDACTED]. This mailbox will be reachable during the holiday period (working hours only). Due to limited capacity, however, it may take longer than usual to respond.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs avails itself of this opportunity to renew to all diplomatic missions and International Organisations in the Netherlands the assurances of its highest consideration.

The Hague, 17 December 2021



**To all diplomatic missions and International Organisations in the Netherlands**