SMART Health Cards Frequently Asked Questions

About SMART Health Cards

What are SMART Health Cards?

SMART Health Cards are paper or digital versions of your clinical information that can be verified as authentic. SMART Health Cards help prevent vaccine record fraud. They also help you to keep a copy of your records on hand and to easily share this information with others if you choose. SMART Health Cards are **not** a vaccine passport.

What does a SMART Health Card look like?

A SMART Health Card has a 2D barcode (QR code) and may look something like the image below.

How are SMART Health Card's different from a vaccine passport?

A SMART Health Card is a verified, authentic, digital copy of your vaccine record. A SMART Health Card does not say whether you are "fully vaccinated" or not. A SMART Health Card has a code to help businesses, organizations, and other countries recognize your vaccine record as authentic.

How to Use

What can I do with a SMART Health Card?

SMART Health Cards make it easy for Rhode Island residents to keep official and verifiable copies of their vaccine records on their phones. They may be particularly helpful for travelers who need to show these records when traveling to different states or countries.

You can keep your SMART Health Card as a record of your COVID-19 vaccination history. You can choose to share it with others if you want to show them this information.

How can I get a SMART Health Card?

There are a few different ways to get a SMART Health Card. If you were vaccinated in Rhode Island:

- You can use the 401Health app to download and save a copy of your SMART Health Card to your phone.
- Some pharmacies in Rhode Island, like CVS, also issue SMART Health Cards. You can find a list of other SMART Health Card issuers here, or you can call the place where you got vaccinated and ask if they can issue a SMART Health Card.

There are plans to add the SMART Health Card to portal.ri.gov, so people can access their card through a computer and web browser in addition to an app on a phone. This document will be updated when that option becomes is available.

Can my primary care provider give me a SMART Health Card?

Healthcare providers that are part of the CommonTrust Network™ can give you a SMART Health Card. Please ask your primary care provider for a SMART Health Card. You can also search the Registry of Verified SMART® Health Card Issuers for Vaccinations to see if your provider is a member.

I got vaccinated outside of Rhode Island. Can I still get a SMART Health Card?

If you got vaccinated for COVID-19 in a different state or country, please ask the place where you got vaccinated if they are able to issue a SMART Health Card.

If you are a Rhode Island resident and were vaccinated in a different state or country, you can share your record with the Rhode Island Child and Adult Immunization Registry (RICAIR) and update your Rhode Island record. Please fill out and submit the Rhode Island Child and Adult Immunization Registry (RICAIR) Record Correction Request Form. Once this form is filled out, please email the form and required attachments to RIDOH.RICAIR@health.ri.gov or mail the form and required attachments to:

RICAIR/KIDSNET Updates
Rhode Island Department of Health
3 Capitol Hill
Providence, RI 02908

The RICAIR office is open Monday through Friday. Please note that requests are addressed in the order they are received. Thank you in advance for your patience.

Is there a fee to use a SMART Health Card?

No. There is no cost to get a SMART Health Card. If you decide to share your SMART Health Card with someone, you can do so with no cost to you or to them.

Will my SMART Health Card be accepted everywhere that asks for my COVID-19 vaccination record?

Right now, different organizations, businesses, states, and countries have different rules for checking vaccination status. **Please check the COVID-19 testing and vaccination requirements of your destination in advance.** The State of Rhode Island cannot guarantee that a SMART Health Card will meet all requirements.

SMART Health Cards are used by several private healthcare organizations, states, foreign airlines, and foreign countries. For a list of organizations, businesses, and other places that use SMART Health Cards, visit the [Registry of Verified SMART® Health Card Issuers for Vaccinations](). SMART Health Cards are designed so they may be used by any organization that wants to use them. All organizations should provide options for users who don't have or prefer not to use a SMART Health Card.

I don't wish to use a SMART Health Card. How do I opt out?

If you do not want a SMART Health Card, you do not need to ask for one or to download it to your phone. Even if you get a SMART Health Card, you do not need to share it with anyone. Choosing to share your information is always in your control.

Can I delete or destroy my SMART Health Card?

You can destroy a paper SMART Health Card and/or delete a digital SMART Health Card at any time. If you change your mind, you may re-download a copy from the organization that provided your vaccination.

What if the information on my SMART Health Card is wrong?

You should contact RIDOH if the information on your SMART Health Card is wrong. To correct the information in your vaccine record, please fill out and submit the [Rhode Island Child and Adult Immunization Registry (RICAIR) Record Correction Request Form](). Once this form is filled out, please email the form and required attachments to [RIDOH.RICAIR@health.ri.gov]() or mail the form and required attachments to:

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Providence, RI 02908

The RICAIR office is open Monday through Friday. Please note that requests are addressed in the order they are received. Thank you in advance for your patience.
If you have additional questions about this form or process, please contact the COVID-19 Information Line at 401-222-8022.

Can I download or keep my child's SMART Health Card?

Yes. Parents can download their children's SMART Health Cards to their phone and keep them in the 401Health app along with their own SMART Health Card.

Parents can also request digital or paper copies of SMART Health Cards from pediatricians or other vaccinators that use SMART Health Cards.

Can I present my child's/parent's SMART Health Card on their behalf?

Yes, as long as you are allowed to. Sharing a SMART Health Card is similar to sharing other medical records in this way.

As a business/host, how do I scan a SMART Health Card?

You can download the free Verifier app from the Apple App Store or Google Play store to scan and view the authenticity of SMART Health Cards.

- Apple: https://apps.apple.com/us/app/smart-health-card-verifier/id1572691390
- Google: https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.thecommonsproject.smarthealthcardverifier&hl=en_US&gl=US

Privacy

What are the terms of use and privacy policy for the app?

Please visit these links to read the Terms of Use and Privacy Policy.

How do SMART Health Cards protect my privacy?

Your vaccination history is stored directly within the SMART Health Card as a 2D barcode (QR code) or file that you control. Third-party applications cannot access these data without your permission. Sharing your card is completely up to you.

What happens to my information after I share it?

Sharing your SMART Health Card information is just like sharing a paper copy of immunization records with a school, faxing or sending medical records to a physician's office, or using your credit card at a restaurant. You should only share your SMART Health Card information with trusted organizations that tell you what they intend to do with your data and/or if they will keep it. If you are not comfortable with the organization seeing the information in your SMART Health Card, you should not share it.

Will anyone have access to personally identifiable information?

If you choose to look up your vaccine record, you will submit personally identifiable information to help locate your vaccine record. However, the personally identifiable information that you need to submit is data that RIDOH already has access to if you were vaccinated in Rhode Island. These data are used only to match you to your vaccine record.

What if I lose my SMART Health Card?

Just like a normal digital file, you can save back-ups of your digital SMART Health Card. You may also make copies of a paper SMART Health Card.

Can someone else use my SMART Health Card?

If someone else is holding your paper or digital SMART Health Card, they can show it to a business, airline, or organization asking to see your vaccine record. However, the organization asking to see your record may ask for other forms of identification like a driver's license.

Does sharing my SMART Health Card disclose any government-issued identifiers, like my social security number or citizenship status?

No. Any SMART Health Card issued in the United States should only contain your legal name, date of birth, and clinical information like your vaccination history.

Who owns the data?

You as the user own the data stored on the phone. Any data that you send to the State (for example, by submitting a symptom survey or to find your vaccine record) are owned by Rhode Island Department of Health.

Can anyone make money off my data?

No, the data are owned by the Rhode Island Department of Health and will never be sold.

Benefits

How do SMART Health Cards help Rhode Island residents?

SMART Health Cards are a safe and private way to put your vaccination records in your hands. With a SMART Health Card, you have easy access to your vaccination record when you need to share it. You control when you share your vaccination record. If you need to share it, SMART Health Cards are recognized by different organizations, businesses, schools, airlines, etc. This means you do not need different forms and records for different organizations and businesses.

How is the SMART Health Card different from other digital health cards?

SMART Health Cards are free and ready for use. SMART Health Cards are available to any one and are not associated with a single organization, business, state, or country. Because all different kinds of businesses, schools, organizations, airlines, and countries use SMART Health Cards, people only need one card to show their vaccine record. These cards were created to provide people simple access to their health records.

Will I be able to use my SMART Health Card to store and share other clinical information?

In the future, you may be able to use your SMART Health Card to share and store other health information.

About VCI

Who makes SMART Health Cards?

SMART Health Cards were developed by VCI, a public-private coalition made of over 900 technology and healthcare organizations.

What is VCI?

VCI is a public-private coalition made of over 900 technology and healthcare organizations. Some of the VCI coalition members include Microsoft, Apple, Mayo Clinic, Boston Children's Hospital, MITRE, Epic, and The Commons Project.

VCI aims to bring public and private groups together around systems that can be used across different businesses, organizations, states, and countries so that individuals have more access and control over their records.

Why did VCI make SMART Health Cards?

In the United States, people's vaccine information is kept in a mixture of paper and electronic health record formats. There are many different information management systems that different states use to keep vaccine information. This makes it difficult for people to access and manage their own data. An example of this happens frequently during the COVID-19 pandemic. When someone travels to a different country and has to share their vaccination record, that country may not accept the traveler's version of a vaccination record because they cannot check that it is an authentic record. This traveler is now unable to enter the country. SMART Health Cards help solve this problem because they make sure that vaccination records can be verified as authentic across different systems.