



THE INVESTIGATOR

Fraudulent COVID-19 Passports



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During an April press conference, Trudeau responded to reporters, saying the federal government is currently working on aligning with “partners and allies around the world” when it comes to needing certification of COVID-19 vaccination to travel.

What are vaccine passports?

Vaccine passports are required proof that a person has tested negative or been protected against an infection such as the COVID-19. They may be in digital form, a phone app for instance, or in the form of a paper document.

How are scammers exploiting vaccine passports?

Any new concept that has confusion and anxiety surrounding it is a potential situation for scammers to take advantage.

In the U.S., a group of companies are working on developing a passport app used for travel and large events. **Canada announced that they are actively exploring the concept for international travel.**

However, scams are very likely to pop up as vaccine apps roll out.

Here's what to watch out for:

- Be skeptical of any vaccine passport app.
- Don't buy fraudulent vaccine cards. Misrepresenting yourself as vaccinated means you put yourself and others around you at risk of contracting COVID-19.
- Research carefully. If you receive an invitation to download a COVID-19 vaccine passport app, be sure to do your research before entering your personal information.
- Guard your government-issued numbers. Never offer your personal information to anyone you don't know or trust.
- Don't post your vaccine card on social media. Your card has your full name and birthday on it, as well as information about where you got your vaccine. If your social media privacy settings aren't set high, you may be



giving valuable information away for anyone to use. Posting photos of your card can help provide scammers with information they can use to create and sell phony ones.

- Think the link may be real? Double check the URL. Scammers often buy official-looking URL domains to use in their cons. When in doubt, perform a separate internet search for the website or call the source directly.

Preparation and prevention are key when facing potential scams and fraud. As Canada begins to ramp up vaccinations and travel inevitably reopens, tools like the COVID-19 passport may take effect as we adapt to the new world. The sooner we are aware of how scammers will attempt to take advantage, the better off we will be.

If you or someone you know has been a victim of a scam, contact BCSI at 604-922-6572 or via [email](#) and have a free consultation with one of our experienced private investigators.

Contact Us

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