

GOVERNMENT

## France urges COVID-19 vaccinations, requires proof for restaurants, malls

July 13, 2021



French President Emmanuel Macron announced new COVID-19 vaccine mandates. Image credit: Getty

By LUXURY DAILY NEWS SERVICE

In light of the rapidly spreading delta variant of COVID-19, French President Emmanuel Macron has ordered all health workers to get vaccinated by Sept. 15, and will now require COVID-19 vaccine passports for restaurants, shopping malls and hospitals.

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The delta variant accounts for more than half of new infections in France, according to French health minister Olivier Vran. To receive a vaccine passport, individuals must prove they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have a newly negative test.

"The country is facing a strong resumption of the epidemic," President Macron said in an address on Monday. "The equation is simple the more we vaccinate, the less space we leave this virus to circulate."

New mandates

After the president's address, more than 1 million French citizens made vaccine appointments in one day, according to the *Associated Press*.

[pic.twitter.com/LLPSuQ5Mfz](https://pic.twitter.com/LLPSuQ5Mfz)

Emmanuel Macron (@EmmanuelMacron) July 12, 2021

*President Macron tweeted a GIF of himself saying "get vaccinated!" during his address*

According to centralized medical appointments app **Doctolib**, 1.3 million French people signed up for their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine, a daily record since December.

In regards to the new healthcare worker vaccine mandate, the health minister announced that workers would be suspended without pay if they are not fully vaccinated by September 15.

As European countries recently reopened to international travel, France's new "vaccine passport" mandate on restaurants, shopping centers, trains and planes, international travelers raises concerns for visiting tourists and vacationers.

Government officials are not taking the new delta variant lightly.

On July 8, Japanese Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga confirmed Tokyo will be under a state of emergency, the city's fourth since the start of the pandemic, from July 12 to Aug. 22 amid surging cases and low vaccination rates. As a result, Olympics organizers are prohibiting spectators at the Games' Tokyo venues further restricting economic activity in a key luxury market ([see story](#)).

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