# Digital Green Certificate

**17 MARCH 2021**

**#DigitalGreenCertificate**

The European Commission presented a proposal to create a Digital Green Certificate to facilitate safe free movement of citizens in the EU during the COVID-19 pandemic. Digital Green Certificates will be valid in all EU Member States.
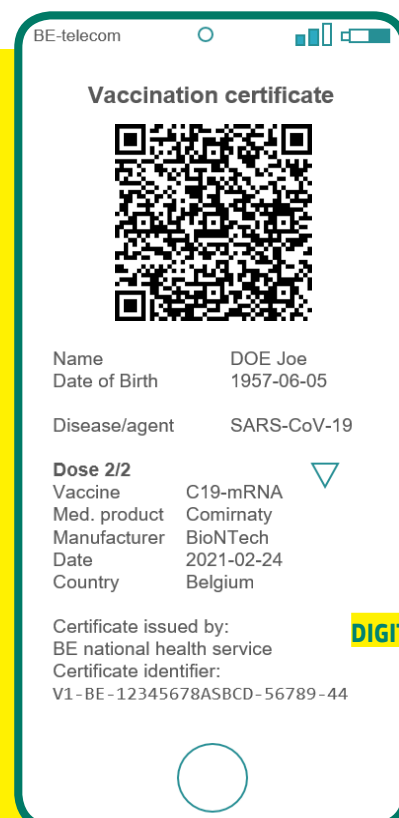


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## WHAT IS THE DIGITAL GREEN CERTIFICATE?

A Digital Green Certificate is a digital proof that a person:

- ✓ has been vaccinated against COVID-19, or
- ✓ has received a negative test result, or
- ✓ has recovered from COVID-19.

› Digital and/or paper format
› With QR code
› Free of charge
› In national language and English
› Safe and secure
› Valid in all EU countries

BE-telecom

**Vaccination certificate**



| | |
|---|---|
| Name | DOE Joe |
| Date of Birth | 1957-06-05 |
| | |
| Disease/agent | SARS-CoV-19 |

**Dose 2/2**
| | |
|---|---|
| Vaccine | C19-mRNA |
| Med. product | Comirnaty |
| Manufacturer | BioNTech |
| Date | 2021-02-24 |
| Country | Belgium |

Certificate issued by:
BE national health service
Certificate identifier:
V1-BE-12345678ASBCD-56789-44

**DIGITAL VERSION**

# FACILITATING SAFE FREE MOVEMENT
## FOR CITIZENS ACROSS EUROPE

## HOW WILL I GET THE DIGITAL GREEN CERTIFICATE?

National authorities are in charge of issuing the certificate. It could, for example, be issued by hospitals, test centres, health authorities.

The digital version can be stored on a mobile device. Citizens can also request a paper version. Both will have a QR code that contains essential information, as well as a digital seal to make sure the certificate is authentic.

## HOW WILL IT HELP FREE MOVEMENT?

The Digital Green Certificate will be **accepted in all EU Member States**. It will help to ensure that restrictions currently in place can be lifted in a coordinated manner.

When travelling, every EU citizen or third-country national legally staying or residing in the EU that holds a Digital Green Certificate should be exempted from free movement restrictions in the same way as citizens from the visited Member State.

If a Member State continues to require holders of a Digital Green Certificate to quarantine or test, it must notify the Commission and all other Member States and justify this decision.

## I AM NOT VACCINATED YET, WILL I BE ABLE TO GO TO ANOTHER EU COUNTRY?

Yes. The Digital Green Certificate should facilitate free movement inside the EU. It **will not be a pre-condition to free movement**, which is a fundamental right in the EU. The Digital Green Certificate can also prove the results of testing, which is often required under applicable public health restrictions.

The certificate is an opportunity for Member States to adjust the existing restrictions on public health grounds. We would expect them to take this proof of people's COVID-19 status into account to facilitate travel.

## DOES IT MATTER WHICH COVID-19 VACCINE I RECEIVE?

Vaccination certificates will be issued to a vaccinated person for any COVID-19 vaccine.

When it comes to waiving free movement restrictions, Member States will have to accept vaccination certificates for vaccines which received **EU marketing authorisation**.

Member States may decide to extend this also to EU travellers that received another vaccine.

## WHICH DATA DOES THE CERTIFICATE INCLUDE?

The Digital Green Certificate contains necessary key information such as name, date of birth, date of issuance, relevant information about vaccine/test/recovery and a unique identifier.

## ARE MY PERSONAL DATA SAFE?

The certificates will only include a limited set of information that is necessary. This cannot be retained by visited countries. For verification purposes, only the validity and authenticity of the certificate is checked, by verifying who issued and signed it. All health data remains with the Member State that issued a Digital Green Certificate.

**Vaccination certificate**

| | |
|---|---|
| Name | DOE Joe |
| Date of Birth | 1957-06-05 |
| Disease/agent | SARS-CoV-19 |

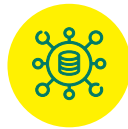| **Dose 1/2** | | **Dose 2/2** | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Vaccine | C19-mRNA | Vaccine | C19-mRNA |
| Med. product | Comirnaty | Med. product | Comirnaty |
| Manufacturer | BioNTech | Manufacturer | BioNTech |
| Date | 2021-02-03 | Date | 2021-02-24 |
| Country | Belgium | Country | Belgium |

| | |
|---|---|
| Certificate issued by | BE national health service |
| Certificate identifier | V1-BE-12345678ASBCD-56789-44 |

**PAPER VERSION**

# HOW DOES THE DIGITAL GREEN CERTIFICATE WORK ACROSS THE EU?

The Digital Green Certificate contains a QR code with a digital signature to protect it against falsification.

When the certificate is checked, the QR code is scanned and the signature verified.

Each issuing body (e.g. a hospital, a test centre, a health authority) has its own digital signature key. All of these are stored in a secure database in each country.

The European Commission will build a gateway. Through this gateway, all certificate signatures can be verified across the EU. The personal data of the certificate holder does not pass through the gateway, as this is not necessary to verify the digital signature.

The European Commission will also help Member States to develop software that authorities can use to check the QR codes.

## THE DIGITAL GREEN CERTIFICATE IN PRACTICE

**VACCINATION / TEST / RECOVERY** →
**CERTIFICATE ISSUED AND SIGNED** →
**QR CODE ON DEVICE OR PAPER** →

**CERTIFICATE: AUTHENTIC? VALID?** ←
**VERIFICATION OF SIGNATURE KEY VIA EU GATEWAY** ←