Guidelines for the performance of the admission tests to restricted access degree programmes aimed at containing the spread of SARS-CoV-2

Sapienza laid down the directions and procedures in order for the Examination panels to manage the admission tests to degree programmes, to be held in-person in September and October 2021. Such directions take into account the prevention and safety measures adopted to contain the spread of SARS-CoV-2 in compliance with the regulations in force, the guidelines of the Ministry and those issued by Sapienza Safety Departments and Covid Task Force, published at www.uniroma1.it/covid-sapienza.

This document summarises the guidelines to contain the spread of SARS-CoV2, that have to be strictly abode by candidates, by the personnel operating in the premises and by the members of the Examination panels.

Candidates

Candidates must access Sapienza premises provided with:

1. a valid ID document.

2. An invitation e-mail specifying date, time and place where the admission test is expected to take place.

3. A statement, pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, attesting the lack of any symptom ascribable to COVID-19 and that they are not subject to any restrictive measure such as quarantine, mandatory self-quarantine and/or to any prohibition to leave their house by way of preventive measure against spread of COVID-19. To this purpose, candidates use the ministerial form, available at Universitaly webpage or on Sapienza website at https://www.uniroma1.it/it/node/22364, “In-person admission tests: instructions and dates” webpage.
4. Hard copy of the green pass or of the report of a molecular or a rapid antigen test with a negative result. **It is highly recommended to take the test starting from h. 3:00 p.m. of the 2 days preceding the date of the admission test as the test is valid for 48 hours** (see annex 1 and, for foreign students, annex 2).

Candidates must:
- wear their face masks (FFP2 exclusively) properly and continuously (by covering both nose and mouth).
- Disinfect their hands with the sanitizing gel available in the dispensers located at the entrance of the building and/or at the entrance and inside each hall.
- Respect social distancing (at least 1 metre) in all situations.
- Walk in corridors, stairs, common passageways always keeping right or following the instructions provided by special signs/advertising boards.
- Come unaccompanied and without any kind of luggage, except any grounded exceptional situations. In such event, a bag or a container will be provided by Sapienza, in which candidates may store their luggage according to the directions of the surveillance staff.

In addition:
- no gatherings are allowed inside and outside the building.
- Not to create gatherings near the hall and in all the internal passageways (stairs, corridors, vending machines and so on), each candidate must wait near the entrance of the building indicated in the invitation e-mail, by observing the due distancing and keeping at least one metre away from others; a member of the Examination panel or of surveillance staff will call candidates, by staggering their entry in the hall meant to be the venue of the admission test. Only after a group of candidates has sat down, a new group may be let in the same hall.
- Each candidate must sit down in the place indicated by the Examination panel, regardless of the existing signs already placed for teaching purposes.
- Candidates must sit down starting from the last available row by proceeding in one direction only (either from right to left or vice versa) or at all events according to the directions given by the Examination panel.

- Candidates must not move from their assigned seat.

- The procedures to return papers must be performed by observing mutual distancing to the utmost.

- Upon conclusion of the test, candidates must return their papers to the specially designated post, according to the directions given by the Examination panel, and may leave the hall only after disinfesting their hands.

- Candidates are not allowed to stay in the internal areas of the building (corridors, stairs, hallways and so on).

- It is necessary to leave the building immediately after exiting the hall.

- It is not allowed to eat (except for certified medical needs), though it is allowed to drink.

**Personnel operating in the premises**

- One or more controlled accesses to the buildings meant to be the venue of the admission tests have been established, to control the entry of candidates and to manage at the same time any personnel’s joint entries.

- All the emergency exits and escape routes must be kept clear outwards, in the direction of escape, to the assembly points.

- The entrance of the building and the areas made available as hall services are equipped with all the applicable signs, by using in case those available at www.uniroma1.it/covid-sapienza in the “Materiali informativi e cartelli da affiggere” section.
The access to Sapienza premises will be only allowed to candidates; no accompanying persons will be let in, except in the provided and authorised cases.

The use of elevators will be only allowed in case of need and to one person at a time, except for people with disabilities and their accompanying person.

Dedicated toilets, duly indicated, will be made available to candidates close to the test area.

Sanitisation of rooms and toilets will be increased, thanks to the intervention of the Building maintenance area.

**Personnel of the Examination panels**

The personnel of the Examination panels must:

- show the statement, pursuant to Presidential Decree no. 445/2000, attesting the lack of any symptom ascribable to COVID-19 and that they are not subject to any restrictive measure such as quarantine, mandatory self-quarantine and/or to any prohibition to leave their house by way of preventive measure against spread of COVID-19. To this purpose, the personnel of the Examination panels use the ministerial form, available on Sapienza website, “In-person admission tests: instructions and dates” webpage, that must be handed over to the Chair of the Examination panel and kept by the same panel; the personnel must also show the hard copy of the green pass or the report of a molecular or a rapid antigen test with a negative result.

- Wear their face masks (FFP2 exclusively) properly and continuously.

- Frequently disinfect their hands with a hydroalcoholic solution, at all events before accessing the test areas.

- Ensure the presence of hydroalcoholic solution dispensers for the candidates’ hand disinfection in the post/s dedicated to candidate identification.

- Control and keep the candidates’ statement during identification.
− Provide candidates with a ball pen during identification, that they must use to affix their signature and, subsequently, for test performance. Upon completion of the same, such ball pen will be returned in a box or an envelope. Ball pens must be placed in a case where date and time must be affixed (for the purposes of a three-day quarantine).

− Manage the candidates’ personal belongings they handed over upon entrance, so as not to let objects belonging to different people come into direct contact with each other.

− Direct candidates to their allocated seats, even regardless of the existing signs already placed for teaching purposes, in a checkerboard disposition, starting from the last row and by proceeding in one direction only (either from right to left or vice versa), always ensuring a fair distancing from them. The distance between the desk of the Examination panel and candidates must be 2 metres.

− Provide candidates with a new mask in case of need (i.e., in case it were damaged).

− Increase air change and ventilation by regularly opening the windows. While keeping the windows open, the doors have to remain closed.

− Indicate the desk allocated for candidates to hand over their papers.

− Ensure, in such desk/s, the presence of hydro alcoholic solution dispensers for the candidates’ hand disinfection.

− Verify that candidates have a proper behaviour with regard to the SARS-Cov-2 prevention and containment measures (i.e.: use of face masks, adherence to social distancing, hand sanitisation, bans on gatherings both inside and outside the premises, on the stairs, in the passageways, corridors and so on).
In addition:

− The members of the Examination panel must sanitise their hands every time they handle the test papers.

− Should they handle the papers handed over to be verified and/or controlled, they are warmly advised to sanitise their hands with a hydro alcoholic solution.

− The access routes to desks for paper handover must ensure minimum 1-metre interpersonal distancing and must be placed close to the way out, so as to favour the safe exit of candidates.

− Upon paper handover at the secretary’s office, the people in charge must sanitise their hands before and after handling the envelopes.

− In case any candidates report or show severe breathing difficulties or flu-like symptoms, they must be provided with a new face mask, promptly sent away from the hall and isolated in a different area. The personnel who monitors the candidate’s isolation, also thanks to the help of the Examination panel, must call the competent health authorities.
ANNEX 1 – GREEN PASSES/CERTIFICATES

COVID-19 Green Passes
(Art. 9 of decree law no. 52/21 as converted by law no. 87 of June 17, 2021)

1. For the purposes of this article, the following definitions will be used:
   
a) **COVID-19 green passes**: certificates attesting that a subject has completed the vaccination cycle against SARS-CoV-2, that they have recovered from SARS-CoV-2 infection or else that they have executed a molecular or a rapid antigen test with a negative result;

b) **vaccination**: anti-SARS-CoV-2 vaccinations got within the framework of the National Strategic Vaccine Plan to prevent SARS-CoV-2 infections;

c) **molecular test**: a nucleic acid amplification test (NAAT), such as the techniques of reverse transcription polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR), loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) and transcription mediated amplification (TMA), used to detect the presence of ribonucleic acid (RNA) of SARS-CoV-2, recognised by the health authorities and executed by healthcare operators or by other subjects deemed as eligible by the Ministry of Health;

d) **rapid antigen test**: a test based on detection of viral proteins (antigens) by means of lateral flow immunoassay, recognised by the health authorities and executed by healthcare operators or by other subjects deemed as eligible by the Ministry of Health;

e) **Digital Green Certificate National Platform (Piattaforma nazionale-DGC)** that issues and validates the COVID-19 green passes: a national IT system that issues, controls and accepts COVID-19 certificates interoperable at national and European level, implemented, thanks to Sistema Tesserazione Sanitaria infrastructure, by the company as per art. 83, paragraph 15, of decree law of June 25, 2008, no. 112, amended and converted by law of August 6, 2008, no. 133, and managed by the same company on behalf of the Ministry of Health, that is the Data Controller of the data collected and generated by the same platform.

2. The COVID-19 green passes attest one of the following conditions:
a) that the anti-SARS-CoV-2 vaccination has been executed upon conclusion of the prescribed cycle;

b) that a subject has recovered from COVID-19 infection, with the following conclusion of quarantine prescribed further to SARS-CoV-2 infection, a measure taken in compliance with the circulars of the Ministry of Health;

c) that a rapid antigen test or a molecular test has been executed with a negative result.

3. The COVID-19 green pass issued on the basis of the conditions provided for by paragraph 2, letter a), has a **nine-month validity** starting from the completion of the vaccination cycle and is automatically issued to the concerned subject, in hard copy or digital format, by the health structure or by the healthcare operators who executed vaccination, upon conclusion of the prescribed cycle. The COVID-19 green pass referred to in the first sentence is also issued upon administration of the first dose and is valid from the fifteenth day after administration until the date of completion of the vaccination cycle, that must be indicated in the certificate upon issue. At the same time, the health structure or the healthcare operators, also by means of the regional IT systems, makes such certificate available in the Regional Electronic Health Record of the concerned subject. The certificate as per this paragraph is no longer valid if, during its validity, the concerned subject has been ascertained as being positive to SARS-CoV-2 (amended by art. 4, paragraph 1, letter e) of decree law no. 105/21).

4. The COVID-19 green pass issued on the basis of the conditions provided for by paragraph 2, letter b), has a **six-month validity** starting from COVID-19 recovery and is automatically issued, upon request of the concerned subject, in hard copy or digital format, by the structure that admitted the subject infected with COVID-19, or, for non-hospitalized patients, by general practitioners and pediatricians, as well as by the prevention department of the competent local health authority, and it is made available in the Electronic Health Record of the concerned subject. The certificate as per this paragraph is no longer valid if, during its six-month validity, the concerned subject has been ascertained as being positive to SARS-CoV-2. The recovery certificates issued prior to the date on which this decree came into force have a six-month validity starting from the date indicated in the same certificate, unless the subject has been ascertained again as being positive to SARS-CoV-2.

5. The COVID-19 green pass issued on the basis of the conditions provided for by paragraph 2, letter c), has a **forty-eight validity from test execution** and is issued, upon request of the concerned subject, in hard copy or digital format, by the public healthcare structures or by the authorized or accredited private ones and by chemist’s
performing tests as per paragraph 1, letters c) and d), or else by general practitioners or pediatricians.

(It is highly recommended to take the test starting from h. 3:00 p.m. of the 2 days preceding the date of the admission test as the test is valid for 48 hours)

6. Waiting for the adoption of the decree law as per paragraph 10, the COVID-19 green passes issued pursuant to paragraph 2 show the data indicated in the similar certificates issued according to the different regional healthcare services.

6-bis. The concerned subject is entitled to request the issue of a new COVID-19 green pass if the personal data of said certificate are not, or are no longer, correct or updated, or if said certificate is no longer available to them.

6-ter. The information included in the COVID-19 green passes as per paragraph 2, including that in digital format, is available to subjects having disabilities, is legible and transcribed both in Italian and in English.

7. Subjects who have already completed their vaccination cycle as at the date on which this decree came into force may request the COVID-19 green pass from the structure that executed the vaccination or else to the Autonomous Region or Province where the above structure is located.

8. The COVID-19 green passes issued in compliance with the law systems in force in the EU Member States are recognised as being equivalent to those governed by this article and valid for the purposes of this decree if they are compliant with the criteria of the Ministry of Health’s circular. The certificates issued in any non-EU countries after a vaccination acknowledged in the European Union and validated by a Member State are recognised as being equivalent to those governed by this article and valid for the purposes of this decree if they are compliant with the criteria of the Ministry of Health’s circular (see amendment made by decree law no. 73/21, art. 34, paragraph 9 bis, letter b), as converted by law no. 106/21).

9. The provisions of paragraphs from 1 to 8 are applicable all over Italy until the date on which the delegated acts for the implementation of the provisions as per the Regulations of the EU Parliament and Council come into force, in the framework for the issue, control and acceptance of COVID-19 interoperable certificates relating to vaccinations, tests and recovery, to facilitate the free movement within the EU during COVID-19 pandemic, which will make possible the activation of the Piattaforma nazionale-DGC. The above delegated acts also govern the processing of data
collected pursuant to this decree (amended by art. 4, paragraph 1, letter e), of decree law no. 105/21).

HOW AND WHEN THE GREEN PASS MAY BE ISSUED

The Green Pass may be issued to:

- subjects who have got the first dose of vaccine (15 days after administration). Candidates who have not received their Green Pass yet since 15 days have not elapsed yet from the vaccination date, must take and show a test made in the previous 48 hours whose result is negative;

- subjects who have taken a test in the previous 48 hours whose result is negative* (candidates who have taken rapid self-tests, saliva tests or serologic tests will not be admitted);

- subjects who have a vaccine certificate (two doses are required in Europe);

- subjects who can demonstrate to have recovered from Covid.

The Ministry of Health issues the COVID-19 green pass (the so-called green pass) according to the data transmitted by the Autonomous Regions and Provinces relating to vaccinations, negative tests or recovery from COVID-19. Certificates are issued in a printable digital format and a notification, an SMS or an email will be sent to announce that such certificates are ready.

How to obtain the green pass?
The certificate may be displayed, downloaded and printed from the following platforms:
- by means of the Health Insurance Card or digital identity (Spid/Cie);
- by downloading the app Immuni: it opens a new window or the app IO: it opens a new window;
- from the Regional Electronic Health Record website, by accessing it with one’s own Spid.

People who do not have any digital tools
People who do not have any digital tools (a computer or a smartphone) may address their general practitioner, pediatrician or their chemist’s to obtain their COVID-19 green pass.
*The hard copy report (showing a negative result) of molecular or rapid antigen tests without QR code taken at public or accredited private healthcare structures (which turn to be a green pass) will also be valid. Candidates who have taken rapid self-tests, saliva tests or serologic tests will not be admitted. It is highly recommended to take the test starting from h. 3:00 p.m. of the 2 days preceding the date of the admission test as the test is valid for 48 hours*
ANNEX 2 – Equivalence of vaccine and recovery certificates issued by non-EU countries for the purposes provided for by art. 3 of decree law of July 23, 2021. (Circular of the Ministry of Health, rec. no. 34414 of July 30, 2021)

With regard to the acceptance of vaccine and recovery certificates issued by non-EU countries identified by the order of the Ministry of Health dated July 29, 2021 and by the following law provisions, it is set forth that, to use the vaccine certificates all over Italy for the purposes of art. 9, paragraph 10-bis, of decree law of April 22, 2021, no. 52, as amended by decree law of July 23, 2021, no. 105, pursuant to the EU Recommendation no. 2021/816 of May 20, 2021, they must include at least the following information:
- personal data of the holder (name, surname, date of birth);
- data about vaccine (name and batch);
- vaccine administration date/s;
- data of the issuing structure (State, Healthcare Authority).

Vaccine certificates, in hard copy or digital format, must be drawn up at least in one of the following languages:
- Italian;
- English;
- French;
- Spanish.

In case a certificate has not been issued in any of the four languages indicated above, it must be accompanied by a sworn translation.

The validity of vaccine certificates is the same as that provided for the COVID-19 green pass (EU digital COVID certificate) issued by the Italian Government.

For the above use, the vaccines accepted in Italy as of today and authorized by EMA are as follows:
- Comirnaty (Pfizer-BioNtech);
- Spikevax (Moderna);
- Vaxzevria (AstraZeneca);
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson).

The recovery certificates must include at least the following information:
- personal data of the holder (name, surname, date of birth);
- information about the previous SARS-CoV-2 infection of the holder, after a test with a positive result (date of the first positive test);
- data of the issuing structure (State, Healthcare Authority).

All recovery certificates, in hard copy and/or digital format, must be accompanied by a sworn translation. The validity of recovery certificates is the same as that provided for the COVID-19 green pass (EU digital COVID certificate) issued by the Italian Government.