



RUSH UNIVERSITY

University Policy and Procedure Committee

Policy Title: COVID-19 Vaccination	
Initiating authority (name, title, contact information)	Responsible authority (name, title contact information)
Alissa Bugh, Associate General Counsel (Alissa_A_Bugh@rush.edu)	Gayle B. Ward, Vice Provost, Student Affairs (Gayle_Ward@rush.edu)
LaTonya Gunter, Regulatory Affairs Manager (LaTonya_Gunter@rush.edu)	David Katz, Vice Provost, Academic Affairs (David_Katz@rush.edu)
X New Supersedes existing (give name & number)	Date submitted: 7/28/22, 8/26/21; 7/15/21 Effective Date: 8/29/22
<p>Purpose/Introduction/Background: Rush University's COVID-19 Vaccination policy is for all students who participate in any onsite activities in person for any reason. The University's vaccination requirement is informed by our I CARE values – innovation, collaboration, accountability, respect, and excellence. The University is committed to executing these values with compassion and the Covid-19 vaccination requirement will strengthen the University's ability to protect the health and safety of our campus and neighboring communities by reducing the risk of transmission.</p>	
<p>Definitions: Fully-vaccinated as defined by the CDC (Center for Disease Control and Prevention) and WHO (World Health Organization).</p>	
<p>Policy Statement: Rush University requires that all students be fully vaccinated with any COVID-19 vaccine authorized for use in the United States by the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) or authorized outside of the United States by the WHO (World Health Organization) and to provide proof of vaccination. Online-only students with no on-campus presence are generally exempt from this policy. However, students in online only programs or any student that is approved for an exemption must follow the vaccination policy of any host site (including clinical or experiential rotations), which may require vaccination and proof thereof. Further, all students, including online learners, who anticipate a need to come to campus at any point must abide by the Covid-19 vaccination requirements set forth in this policy. To keep the campus community safe and healthy, the University will continue to adhere to the public health guidelines that may include requiring a booster vaccination and additional measures deemed appropriate. Students should regularly check their emails/university policies for any updates or follow-up communications.</p>	
<p>Procedures:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deadline: The deadline for complying with this policy is to be fully vaccinated by the start of the first day of each term, or before coming to campus for any reason. Exceptions are outlined below. • Proof of vaccination: Proof of vaccination should be submitted to the college specific immunization process as specified below. Students are required to submit proof of vaccination only by using their Rush University email account. General questions are to be submitted to Student_Health@rush.edu. 	

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- **College of Nursing:** Students are expected to upload COVID-19 vaccination records into Exxat.
- **The Graduate College:** Students are expected to upload COVID-19 vaccination records into CastleBranch.
- **College of Health Sciences:** Students are expected to upload COVID-19 vaccination records into CastleBranch. Students at Large (SALs) are expected to send their COVID-19 vaccine record to Student_Health@rush.edu
- **Medical College:** Student vaccination records will be kept through Lifetime Medical Associates and entered directly into EPIC. Student questions are to be directed directly to Lifetime Medical Associates 312.942.8000 or email Mary_Nicholas@rush.edu.

- **Exemptions**
 - **Medical Exemption:** An exemption from this requirement for medical contraindications may be requested by providing documentation from the student's personal physician justifying the exemption. It is the student's responsibility to submit this request.
 - **Religious Exemption:** An exemption based on a sincerely held religious belief may be requested by completing a written and signed application by the student detailing the student's objection to immunization based on a sincerely held religious belief. The objection must set forth the specific religious beliefs that conflict with the immunization. The religious objection may be personal and need not be directed by the tenets of an established religious organization. It is the student's responsibility to submit this request.

 - For additional information about submitting a medical or religious exemption contact Student_Health@rush.edu.

- **Approved Exemptions Requirements for students who engage in clinical training at Rush System for Health (RUSH):** If an exemption is approved by Rush University and the student participates in clinical training at Rush, the student will be required to provide proof of a weekly Covid-19 test and have a negative result. If the weekly Covid-19 test result is positive, the student should comply with quarantine requirements. All on-campus students, with University approved Covid-19 exemptions, must adhere to Rush University Medical Center, CDC and public health policies and guidelines including but not limited to engaging in masking, social distancing, and adherence to symptom tracking and quarantine requirements. Students with approved University Covid-19 exemptions may further be subject to reasonable changes in academic and/or campus experiences. An approved University Covid-19 exemption does not include offsite clinical rotations. Students who do not comply with the University Covid-19 Vaccine policy requirements may be delayed or reassigned to alternative clinical rotations depending on availability. Students who receive a University approved exemption and are required to participate in clinical rotations that mandate vaccination may be unable to meet their degree requirements and thus place themselves at risk for delayed program completion, outside of the control of the College and University.



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Students in the Process of Becoming Vaccinated: Unvaccinated students who do not have an approved exemption must start the vaccination process immediately and provide proof they have started the vaccination process. Upon submitting proof, these students may attend the campus activities, but are required to follow Rush University Medical Center, CDC and public health policies and guidelines including masking and maintaining social distancing. If on clinical training at RUSH, these students also must be tested weekly until they receive their second dose. Once fully vaccinated, these students are required to submit proof of being fully vaccinated according to their college's immunization process.

International Students: International students who have not been vaccinated by a vaccine that has been approved by both the FDA and WHO, are expected to get vaccinated as soon as possible after arrival to Chicago and completing their quarantine requirement. Until fully-vaccinated, international students must provide proof they have started the vaccination process and may attend the campus activities, but are required to follow Rush University Medical Center, CDC, public health policies and FDA guidelines, including masking, and maintaining social distance.

Disclaimer: This policy and/or procedures may be amended as necessary depending on Covid-19 factors or changes in any RUSH, governmental, or regulatory authorities.

ADDENDUM - Student Non-Compliance Steps & Timeline:

The following non-compliant steps are for students who:

- 1) are not compliant with the COVID-19 vaccination policy,
- 2) have an approved COVID-19 exemption and fail to submit proof of a weekly Covid-19 test,
- 3) participate in clinical training at Rush and only received the first dose of the two-dose vaccine without submitting proof of a weekly COVID-19 test.

Step 1 = 5 business days

Documented Written Noncompliance:

(Student and college representative(s) receive email directly from Student Health regarding non-compliance 24 hours or 1 business day after non-compliance).

- When a student fails to respond to the **1st email within 2 business days** regarding their non-compliance status with proof of a COVID-19 vaccination or the weekly exempt testing (for students in clinical rotations at RUSH) in accordance with the University's vaccination policy, a **2nd email** is sent to the student and the college representative(s).
- When a student fails to respond to the **2nd email within 2 business days**, a **3rd email** is sent to the student and their college representative with a warning that **continued non-compliance will result in restrictions of entering the Rush University academic campus, attending any in-person classes or participating in any Rush University sponsored student activities and deactivation of badge access** if the student is not compliant within **2 business days** of receiving the third email.



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Step 2 = 4 business days

Final Written Warning:

- When a student fails to respond to the **3rd email within 2 business days**, a **4th email** is sent from Student Health to the student with a copy to the college representative(s), informing the non-compliant student that their student account will be blocked and access to the learning management system will be restricted if the student is not compliant **within 2 business days** of the **4th email** being sent.

Step 3 = 2 business days

Student is Administratively Withdrawn:

- When a student fails to respond or comply by the 2nd business day of the **4th and final email**, the University Command Center will alert the Enrollment Management office to notify the student and their college representative that **the non-compliant student is being administratively withdrawn on the 3rd business day post the 4th email due to non-compliance with Rush University’s COVID-19 Vaccination requirement and/or Weekly Exemption Testing Process.**

<p>For use by the P & P Committee only: Policy Number: UAC0037 Policy Category: University Student and Academic Suggested Title: COVID-19 Vaccination Date approved by P&P Committee: 8/8/22,6/13/22; 8/26/21; 7/15/21</p>	<p>Date of initial adoption: 7/15/21 Effective date: 6/13/22; 8/26/21; 7/15/21, 8/29/22 Date of Revision: 6/13/22; 8/26/21, 8/8/22 Sunset Date (2 yrs from date of adoption/revision) 6/13/24</p>
<p>Comments: Name P & P Committee Chair: LaTonya Gunter</p>	



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