
Subject: COVID-19 Update June 24, 2021: Vaccine Requirement

Date: Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 1:56:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time

From: ForQNews

Dear Queens Community,

As we look ahead to the Fall semester, we'd like to reiterate our gratitude for all you have done to help keep our COVID-19 case rate extremely low, allowing us to continue on-campus learning and living with little disruption.

After careful consideration, we have decided to require the COVID-19 vaccine for all faculty, staff and students who will be on campus this coming academic year. We believe this is a critical next step in ensuring the health and safety of the entire Queens community, and to our shared goal of returning to campus in the fall at full strength and for the full academic and residential Queens experience. We spent several weeks considering the alternative of dividing our campus between the vaccinated and unvaccinated population and decided it would not be feasible or appropriate.

Our decision is based on the advice of local, state and national health officials as well as data indicating that the vaccines currently approved under emergency authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) provide effective protection against COVID-19 as well as its known variants. If you require a religious or medical exception as outlined by the state of North Carolina, there will be an opportunity for you to request that exemption. For students and employees who fall into this category, there may be additional safety precautions in place.

We are letting you know now so that you can make plans to be vaccinated before returning to campus. We will have a vaccine clinic close to the start of the fall semester for anyone for whom it's a hardship to otherwise obtain one. More details to come.

We realize questions about process and details will arise. We are working through those details now, and plan to hold a live, virtual Q and A session with our partners at Novant Health on Thursday, July 15 at 12:30 p.m. We will email you an Outlook appointment with the Zoom link. In the meantime, here is a link to [Frequently Asked Questions](#). If you have a question that isn't covered in our FAQ, please email it to COVIDSafe@queens.edu.

By getting vaccinated, we protect ourselves and others, particularly those who are most vulnerable. Thank you, again, for your perseverance and commitment to a safe and healthy environment both on and off campus.

Sincerely,

The Senior Leadership Team

Dan Lugo, President

Mary Alice Boyd

Jen Eriksen

Sarah Fatherly

Maria del Carmen Flores-Mills

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