



Saint Peter's UNIVERSITY

Policy: Interim COVID-19 Immunization and Booster Record Requirement for Students

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Prepared by: Erin McCann, Vice President of Student Life and Development
Travis Whisler, Dean of Students
Anna Stacey, RN, Director of Health Services

Purpose: This interim policy details the COVID-19 immunization and booster record requirements for all Saint Peter's University Students to minimize outbreaks of COVID-19 among students; to prevent or reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 among all persons at Saint Peter's University; and to promote the public health of the community consistent with federal, State, and local efforts to stem the pandemic.

Definitions: **COVID-19:** COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by SARS-CoV-2, a new coronavirus discovered in 2019.

COVID-19 immunization: Administration of a complete series of any COVID-19 vaccine authorized for use in the United States by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Use Listing (EUL). As of the date of this interim policy, there are currently three COVID-19 vaccines authorized by the FDA for emergency use and recommended by the ACIP: two mRNA vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna) and one viral vector vaccine (Janssen [Johnson & Johnson]) and an additional four vaccines authorized by WHO (Oxford/AstraZeneca, CoviShield, Sinopharm BBIBP-CorV, and Sinovac).

COVID-19 Booster: Administration of any COVID-19 booster approved from use in the United States by the FDA. As of this date of this most recent policy modification, there are three COVID-19 boosters authorized by the FDA: two mRNA vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna) and one viral vector vaccine (Janssen [Johnson & Johnson]). Boosters must be obtained at least ten months after the last dose of the initial vaccine.

Policy: All students planning to attend in the Fall 2022 semester must present evidence of COVID-19 immunization and booster if applicable **by Friday, August 26, 2022.** Any student Evidence of immunization must be uploaded to the [COVID-19 Vaccine Records Form](#) prior to arrival on campus.

International students vaccinated with a COVID vaccine authorized for use in the United States by the FDA or WHO may also upload documentation signed by a healthcare provider licensed to practice medicine in the United States or a foreign country of the dates and name of COVID-19 vaccination given. International students who have received COVID-19 vaccines not authorized for use in the United States by the FDA or approved by WHO will not be accepted. Students arriving in the United States will not be allowed on campus for a period of 2 weeks following the final dose of the COVID-19 immunization.

This interim policy is subject to change based on factors such as the progress of the COVID-19 pandemic and guidance from governmental authorities.

Exemptions: **Medical exemption:** Medical exemption requires a written statement, signed by a licensed physician, advanced practice nurse, or physician assistant, indicating that the vaccine is medically contraindicated for a specific period of time and the reasons for the medical contraindication, based on valid medical reasons as determined by regulation of the Commissioner of Health and Senior Services.

[MEDICAL EXEMPTION FORM](#)

Religious exemption: Religious exemption requires a written statement explaining how the administration of the vaccine would violate, contradict, or otherwise be inconsistent with the bona fide religious tenets or practices of the student, or the parent or guardian, as appropriate. Philosophical, sociological or moral views are not accepted as exemptions.

[RELIGIOUS EXEMPTION FORM](#)

The University shall provide reasonable accommodations to those students whose medical condition contraindicates COVID-19 immunization or religious beliefs bar COVID-19 immunization. Accommodations will be limited to academic

classes only and exempted students will not be permitted on campus in any capacity beyond academic courses. Students granted exemptions will not be permitted to live in on-campus housing. Exempted students will also not be permitted to participate in events, programs, athletics or other in person activities during the COVID-19 health emergency.

Accommodations for **APPROVED** exemptions can be requested through the Center for Academic Success and Engagement by using the [Student Accommodation COVID request form](#).

Fully remote/Off site programs exemption: Students whose entire course of study is entirely web-based, a fully online degree program, or off-site at a non-University location. To qualify, the student must have no physical presence on campus and will be ineligible to participate in any in person event and/or activity on campus or enter any University owned or operated facility.

This document was prepared after reviewing and benchmarking best practices developed by the following:

[American College Health Association Recommends COVID-19 Vaccination Requirements for All On-Campus College Students in Fall 2021](#)

[COVID-19 Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices \(ACIP\) Vaccine Recommendations | CDC](#)

[COVID-19 Vaccines | CDC](#)

[New Jersey COVID-19 Information Hub](#)

[N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.3 and N.J.A.C. 8:57-4.4, Immunization of Pupils in Schools, Medical and Religious Exemptions](#)