



Whittier College
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Email Communication

COVID-19 @ Whittier

Spring 2021

Vaccine Requirements from COVID-19 Compliance Task Force

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Update on Vaccine Requirements from COVID-19 Compliance Task Force

1 message

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Mon, May 17, 2021 at 4:45 PM

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To: Whittier College Community

From: Linda Oubre, President

sal johnston, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty

Cynthia Joseph, Associate Vice President of Human Resources

Lisa Newton, COVID-19 Compliance Task Force Chair

Bruce Smith, Vice President and Dean of Students

VACCINE UPDATE

To prepare for the full reopening of campus in the fall, Whittier College is updating its vaccination policy for all undergraduate and graduate students to include the COVID-19 vaccine. The COVID-19 vaccine will also be required for all College faculty, staff, and contracted workers. We are providing the following information now to allow everyone sufficient time to determine their plan of action regarding the vaccine.

While currently the vaccines are distributed only under Emergency Use Authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), the College anticipates that the FDA will approve at least one of the COVID-19 vaccines prior to the start of the 2021-2022 academic year. The new vaccine policy was adopted to safeguard the health and wellbeing of employees, students, and their families, as well as visitors to campus and the local community. This policy is intended to comply with all state and local laws. It is based upon guidance provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, public health, and licensing authorities, as applicable.

Whittier College will require the following for STUDENTS:

- All undergraduates who choose to live on-campus this summer must submit proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 no later than June 1, 2021. Students living in the residence halls this summer who have not yet submitted proof of full vaccination must participate in the COVID-19 testing program. Students who opt-out of the COVID-19 vaccine will not be allowed access to the residence halls.

- All students enrolled for the 2021-22 Academic Year must submit proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 no later than **July 1, 2021**.
 - Any student who is unable to receive an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine due to a disability or sincerely-held religious practice, belief,

or observance, may request an exemption to this policy by contacting the [Health and Wellness Center](#).

- Students who opt-out of the COVID-19 vaccine may not be allowed to live in the residence halls.

Whittier College will require the following for FACULTY, STAFF, AND CONTRACTED WORKERS:

- All staff, faculty, and contracted workers must submit proof of full vaccination against COVID-19 no later than **July 1, 2021**.
 - As long as the vaccines are distributed under Emergency Use Authorization from the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), employees and contracted workers will have the option to decline vaccination for personal reasons by submitting the [Personal Declination Form](#).
 - Once the FDA approves at least one COVID-19 vaccine, Whittier will require immunization against COVID-19, with fewer exemptions. Employees unable to receive an FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine due to a disability or sincerely-held religious practice, belief, or observance, may request an exemption to this policy once enacted. Updated participation requirement details will be announced following FDA approval.

PROOF OF FULL COVID-19 VACCINATION

Acceptable proof of full COVID-19 vaccination includes a copy of your vaccination card (which includes the name of the person vaccinated, type of COVID-19 vaccination provided, lot number, clinic site, and date the last dose

was administered) or documentation of full vaccination against COVID-19 from a healthcare provider (which includes the name of the person vaccinated and confirms that the person is fully vaccinated against COVID-19).

Students should submit their documentation to the Student Health and Wellness Center via the **health portal** ([email for more information](#)).

Faculty, staff, and contracted workers should submit their documents to the [Human Resources Department](#). All medical information submitted in the course of the COVID-19 Vaccination Program will be kept in a separate confidential file in Human Resources or the Student Health and Wellness Center.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Students traveling to Whittier from another country or location where they may not have had an opportunity to be vaccinated prior to their arrival on campus can contact the [Student Health and Wellness Center](#) to get assistance with accessing the vaccine.

For individuals who have been vaccinated in another country, Whittier will accept immunization records for all vaccines recognized by local public health officials, in accordance with guidance from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Presently this includes vaccines [authorized for use by the World Health Organization](#). Students can contact the [Student Health and Wellness Center](#) for more information.

We thank you in advance for your cooperation. A recent survey of College employees shows that 85% of respondents have already received at least one vaccine dose and 78% of respondents were in favor of the policy change. By working together we can ensure a successful reopening of campus in the fall and a return to a vibrant on-campus environment.

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This message is intended solely for communication to the Whittier College student body. The views and opinions included in this email belong to their author and do not necessarily mirror the views and opinions of Whittier College.