I. Purpose

This Policy establishes the University of Pittsburgh’s (University) COVID-19 vaccination requirement.

II. Scope

This Policy applies to all University campuses and all faculty, staff, and students, as detailed below.

III. Policy

The University requires every faculty member (including full-time, part-time, and adjunct), staff member (including full-time, part-time, and temporary), and students (including graduate, professional and undergraduate) except those enrolled solely in online programs, to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless an exemption is granted, as provided below. To be fully vaccinated an individual must have completed a FDA or WHO authorized or approved primary COVID-19 series of vaccine doses.

The University is taking this step as part of its efforts to enhance the health and safety of our communities. Vaccines are safe and effective in adding protection against COVID-19. Implementing this requirement is an important tool for the University to safely support our students and research, as well as protect our workforce, as it manages its response to this virus. Faculty, staff, and students must also continue to follow all other University health and safety requirements.

A. Proof of COVID-19 Immunization

Current faculty, staff, and students must submit proof of their vaccination to the University by December 6, 2021. Instructions on how to report vaccination information are available here. If
added vaccine doses are later designated a part of any vaccine sequence by FDA, CDC or WHO, each student, staff and faculty member must be compliant with that change.

1. Non-Compliance with December 6, 2021 Deadline

   • Currently enrolled students must provide proof of vaccination or receive an exemption by December 6 to be eligible to take classes in Spring 2022 term or live in the residence halls as of January 1, 2022. Students who are enrolled for Spring classes as of December 6 but fail to provide proof or obtain an exemption by this deadline will be disenrolled prior to the Spring semester.

   • Current faculty and staff must submit proof of vaccination or receive an exemption by December 6. Those who fail to meet this deadline will be subject to disciplinary action in accordance with the University’s disciplinary guidelines, including loss of access to electronic resources and other disciplinary actions up to and including termination of employment.

2. Applicability to New Faculty, Staff, and Students effective as of December 6, 2021

   • All new students will need to submit proof that they have received all required doses of a COVID-19 vaccination prior to enrolling in classes at the University.

   • All new faculty and staff will need to submit proof they have received all required doses of a COVID-19 vaccination prior to the start of their employment at the University.

B. Exemptions

Faculty, staff, and students can request an exemption from this vaccine requirement. Exemption requests will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and can only be requested for medical reasons, or reasons based on sincerely held religious belief or because of a strong moral/ethical conviction. Faculty, staff, and students granted an exemption may be subject to additional mitigation measures, such as routine COVID-19 testing.

   • Further information about submitting a request for a medical exemption is available here.

   • Further information about submitting a request for a sincerely held religious exemption or a strong moral/ethical conviction is available here.

IV. Contact Information & Public Accessibility

This Policy is posted under Community Standards on the Office of Policy Development & Management’s website and can be found at: https://www.policy.pitt.edu.
For specific questions related to this Policy, please contact: ResilienceSteeringCommittee@pitt.edu.

V. Related Authorities

University COVID-19 Standards and Guidelines
University Proof of Vaccination Portal