University of Pittsburgh
COVID-19 Vaccination
Policy CS 29

Implementing Executive: Senior Vice Chancellor and Chief Legal Officer/Executive Sponsor, Resilience Steering Committee
Responsible Unit: Resilience Steering Committee
Category: Community Standards
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I. Purpose

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

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.

Additionally, the University strongly encourages every faculty member, staff member, and student to remain up to date with their COVID-19 vaccinations, as COVID vaccine boosters can further enhance or restore protection that might have decreased over time. What is up to date may be different for each person and is informed by an individual’s age, whether they are immunocompromised, and when they received their last vaccine dose. To be up to date an individual needs to have received the number of doses prescribed by the CDC according to the schedule provided here.

Following these requirements and guidance is an important part of our commitment to protecting the health and safety of our communities. Vaccines are safe and effective in adding protection against COVID-19 and remaining current with CDC guidance remains the most effective way to prevent serious outcomes from the virus. Implementing this policy is an important tool for the
University to safely support our students and research, as well as protect our workforce, as it continues to manage 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

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

- All 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 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. Proof of COVID-19 Boosters

Faculty, staff, and students are strongly encouraged to remain up to date with their COVID-19 vaccines according to the CDC guidance available here and submit proof of all additional doses to the University. As detailed in the CDC’s guidance, what is up to date may be different for each person and is informed by an individual’s age, whether they are immunocompromised, and when they received their last vaccine dose. Instructions on how to report your vaccination information is available here.

C. Exemptions

Faculty, staff, and students can request an exemption from the vaccine requirement provided in Section III.A. 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.

- 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