



July 22, 2021

COVID-19 VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FOR SCHOOL OF NURSING

Frequently asked questions

What is the School of Nursing's vaccine requirement?

The School of Nursing requires that all faculty and staff be vaccinated against COVID-19 or receive an approved medical or religious exemption by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021. This is in alignment with the policy announced on July 22, 2021, by Duke University Health System (DUHS).

Who is required to get and show documentation of vaccination?

- All faculty, staff and students in the School of Nursing are expected to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or receive a religious or medical exemption.
- All DUSON Consulting, Adjunct and Emeritus faculty are expected to be vaccinated against COVID-19. If these faculty physically come to a Duke facility, they will be required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 or receive a religious or medical exemption.
- Compliance with this policy is required for research and scholarship positions (including postdoctoral associates, postdoctoral scholars, research associates, research scientists, research scholars, associates in research, and visiting graduate/undergraduate students), students employed by the School of Nursing, paid/unpaid interns and volunteers, non-Duke vendors and contract workers in the School of Nursing.
- All students in the School of Nursing should adhere to the COVID-19 vaccination requirements specified by Duke University, which mandates that all students be vaccinated.

What happens if I don't receive a vaccine by the Sept. 21, 2021, deadline?

For staff, vaccination against COVID-19 or policy compliance through a granted medical or religious exemption is a condition of employment. Consequences of non-compliance include a final written warning, unpaid administrative leave, followed by termination.

For faculty, non-compliance with the policy could result in denied access to DUSON facilities, Duke Health EMR and clinical facilities, Duke email and internet (dhe).

What if I can't get vaccinated by the deadline?

School of Nursing faculty and staff who get the two-dose vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) need to be aware of the waiting period between the two doses. If you are on vacation between now and the deadline, please plan accordingly to ensure all doses are completed by 10 a.m. on

Tuesday, Sept. 21, 2021. If you are unable to complete the vaccination series (i.e., not get the second dose), you will be non-compliant and will face administrative action.

Are any exemptions allowed?

The new mandatory COVID vaccination policy does allow limited exemptions. Faculty and staff seeking approved medical or religious exemptions must submit their application by **Tuesday, Sept. 7, 2021**. Application forms are available at <https://covid-19.dukehealth.org/vaccine-information>.

How do I let Employee Occupational Health and Wellness know that I've been vaccinated?

School of Nursing faculty and staff are required to submit documentation of two doses of either the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine.

If faculty and staff have received their full, complete vaccination(s):

- Through Employee Occupational Health & Wellness (EOHW), they do not need to submit documentation
- At community locations, such as at a retail pharmacy or a Duke patient clinic, they must submit vaccine documentation to <https://covid-19.dukehealth.org/vaccine-information>

How do I know if Employee Health has my vaccination status in its system?

Students, faculty and staff can now check to ensure their vaccination status has been recorded by Student Health or Employee Health by logging in to the secured Status Check website at <https://covidvaccine.duke.edu/>. If your documentation has not been recorded, you can upload an image of your completed vaccination card at <https://covid-19.dukehealth.org/vaccine-information>.

Why are we doing this?

The School of Nursing, in alignment with the School of Medicine and DUHS, made this decision because we are committed to keeping our patients, faculty, staff, students and the community safe and healthy.

How dangerous is the new Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus?

Current infection rates are due overwhelmingly to unvaccinated people who are being infected with the Delta variant. Similarly, those hospitalized with the COVID-19 virus are more likely to be unvaccinated. The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reported July 16 that new cases of COVID-19 are up by nearly 70 percent in just a week, due largely to the Delta variant. Hospitalizations are up by nearly 36 percent. Those percentages will continue to increase until there is widespread vaccination.

How do I know the vaccine is safe and effective?

The revised DUHS vaccination policy is based on scientific data from public health and infectious disease experts around the U.S., which show the vaccines to be both safe and effective in significantly reducing COVID transmissions. This is especially important for health

care workers. Vaccination helps protect you from getting sick or severely ill with COVID, and it protects those around you – family, patients, coworkers, friends and your community.