Frequently asked questions

Vaccine requirement for UNMC faculty, staff and students

Q. When must UNMC faculty, staff and students report that they are fully vaccinated?
A. All students, staff and faculty must report that they are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by Oct. 22, 2021.

Q. Why is UNMC requiring vaccination?
A. This decision aligns with our mission to transform lives for a healthier future and the science to reduce virus transmission and keep our learning and clinical environments safe. It also complements the actions of our clinical partners who have mandated COVID-19 vaccinations.

Q. Can I get an exemption to the COVID-19 vaccine?
A. Requests for exemptions may be made on the grounds of religious beliefs or medical circumstances. All requests for exemptions must be submitted before Sept. 15, 2021:
   • Students must complete a vaccination waiver request form.
   • Faculty/staff must complete a request for accommodation form. (Faculty and staff can read more about the process on the HR-Employee Resources website).
In addition, students who are enrolled 100 percent remotely and staff who historically have been working 100 percent remotely with pre-existing supervisory approval, both with no clinical responsibilities and no planned visits to campus, also may apply for exemption from the vaccine requirement should they so desire.

Q. What if I elect not to receive vaccine and do not qualify for an exemption?
A. We encourage everyone to be vaccinated. Failure to do so could result in significant employment or academic disciplinary action (potentially up to and including termination).

Q. Can I continue my studies as an unvaccinated student?
A. Students who are not vaccinated could have their course of study suspended, and therefore not be able to continue enrollment this semester and/or complete graduation requirements. UNMC cannot guarantee that opportunities for required clinical experiential learning will be allowed or available in a timely manner for unvaccinated students given the vaccine requirements of our clinical partners across the state and across the nation.

Q. I was recently vaccinated. How do I record my vaccination status?
A. Vaccination status must be recorded in the Health Tracking System. If you received both vaccines through UNMC/Nebraska Medicine, your information already is recorded. If you received one or both vaccines at another location, enter the Health Tracking System to record this information.

Q. Will UNMC eventually require COVID-19 boosters?
A. UNMC will require boosters if and when the science determines they are needed.

Q. Who can I contact with questions?
A. Email mailto:healthsecurity@unmc.edu.