



Policy Title:	Mandatory Student COVID-19 Vaccine Policy	
Policy Number (assigned by Scenario Planning Team):	6.H.06	
Approval Authority:	Steering Committee	Effective Date: July 1, 2021
Responsible Administrator/Office:	COVID Compliance Office	Revised: July 23, 2021 December 10, 2021

Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccine Policy

1. Policy Summary

COVID-19 vaccines have been demonstrated to be a safe and effective tool in reducing the spread of the SARS CoV-2 virus and preventing serious illness and death from COVID-19. In addition to the impacts on the health and wellbeing of members of our community, COVID-19 resulted in the need for significant changes in operating procedures, along with additional financial resources and personnel associated with operating the Student Health Service and managing processes for testing, isolating and quarantining students to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19. To address these concerns, the University requires all students who are within the scope of this policy to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Universal vaccination of students against COVID-19 will significantly reduce the risk of transmission of COVID-19 on campus and in the surrounding communities and allow the University to begin a path towards a more normal and vibrant campus life.

2. Policy Scope

This policy applies to all Wake Forest University students (undergraduate, graduate and

professional school) who reside in University housing, are enrolled in in-person classes, and/or who participate in any in-person activities on the Reynolda, Brookstown, Wake Downtown, and Charlotte campuses, and/or who participate in any Wake Forest-sponsored study abroad or study away programs. In addition, this policy applies to students who attend other institutions but are also enrolled in in-person classes at Wake Forest. This policy does not apply to students enrolled only in the Wake Forest School of Medicine programs. Students may submit a request for a medical or religious exemption; however, such exemptions will not apply to students studying abroad on Wake Forest-sponsored programs.

3. Policy Statement

Effective July 1, 2021, students to whom this policy applies will be required to provide documentation of full vaccination, as defined by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), with a U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) authorized COVID vaccine. This documentation must be received by the University prior to the start of Fall semester classes, participation in in-person activities, and/or occupancy in University housing. Students will also be required to comply with University requirements pertaining to recommendations from the CDC and the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) for additional doses of COVID vaccines determined by ACIP to be necessary to provide ongoing immunity/protection against COVID-19.

Students must submit documentation providing proof of full COVID-19 vaccination to the Student Health Portal (<https://shs.wfu.edu/covid/vaccine-upload/>) by July 1, 2021 for the Fall 2021 semester, and by the date specified by the University for subsequent terms. Students who would like to request a religious or medical exemption should follow instructions on this Student Health website (<https://shs.wfu.edu/covid/vaccine-upload/>). Requests for exemptions must also be submitted by July 1, 2021 for the Fall 2021 semester, and by the date specified by the University for subsequent terms.

Beginning with the Spring 2022 semester, students to whom this policy applies will also be required to provide documentation of having received a COVID-19 booster vaccination by the date specified by the University.

Students residing outside of the United States who were unable to access an FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine, booster vaccine, or a full vaccine series prior to arriving to campus will be granted a grace period to demonstrate compliance and be permitted to move into residence halls and begin classes if they meet the following criteria:

- Students who have been unable to access *any* doses of an FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine, booster vaccine, or vaccine series will be required to provide documentation of at least one dose of an FDA-authorized vaccine within 15 days of moving into University housing or the start of classes on campus for the student's academic program, whichever is sooner. If more than one dose of the COVID-19 vaccine is required to reach "fully vaccinated" status, these students must complete the full series

and receive the booster vaccine within the time period required by the Student Health Service to be in compliance with this policy.

- Students who provide satisfactory documentation of having begun a COVID-19 vaccine series, but for whom the medically recommended safe date of subsequent dose of the series is beyond their arrival on campus or the beginning of classes. These students must complete the recommended doses of the COVID-19 vaccine and booster vaccine within the time period required by the Student Health Service to be in compliance with this policy.

The University will assist student efforts to receive a COVID-19 vaccine or booster vaccine if they have been unable to access the vaccine. Students who are residing in the United States are considered to be able to access the vaccine and will not be eligible for the grace period.

Students who fail to comply with this policy (and who have not been approved for an exemption or meet the criteria for the University's grace period as explained in this policy) will not be permitted to attend in-person classes, reside in University housing, or participate in in-person activities until such time as they satisfactorily comply. No refunds of tuition, housing, dining, and all other fees and charges will be issued for the period of time when the student was not permitted to attend classes, reside in University housing, and access campus due to non-compliance with this policy. Students who officially withdraw from the University will be given refunds in accordance with the applicable Refund Policy.

Information for new students

North Carolina State law (G.S. 130A-152) requires documentation of certain other immunizations for students attending a North Carolina college or university. Wake Forest University adheres to the State Law, also requiring WFU students to provide documentation of immunizations. Students must submit certification of these immunizations PRIOR TO REGISTRATION. Information concerning these requirements can be found [here](#).

Incoming first year and new students can provide documentation of the COVID-19 vaccination and booster vaccination on the required Health Information and Immunization Form ([HIIF](#)). If the COVID-19 vaccination and booster vaccination documentation are provided by submitting this form, no further documentation is necessary.

Information regarding recommendations for and contraindication to the COVID-19 vaccination can be found on the [CDC website](#).

Related Policies, Protocols, Procedures, Guidelines and Other Resources:

[CDC Interim Considerations for the Use of COVID-19 Vaccines Currently Authorized in the](#)

[United States](#)

[CDC Fully Vaccinated Status](#)

[WFU Immunization Policy](#)