University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences COVID-19 Vaccine Task Force

Guiding Principles and Resources

The University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences (USAHS) has set forth the following guiding principles regarding COVID-19 vaccines. Helpful resources are also included. For further information on USAHS reentry details and our Return to Campus Plan, please visit https://www.usa.edu/return-to-campus/. COVID-19 Policies and Forms can also be found on the reentry website or for employees on myUSA>Campus Connection>Human Resources.

Guiding Principles

1. The COVID-19 vaccine is widely available across the U.S.
2. Any student or employee who can obtain a COVID-19 vaccine should take the opportunity to receive one and independently locate a vaccination site. There is no cost to obtain a vaccine.
3. Any employee scheduled to receive a COVID-19 vaccine during regular work hours and who has an official notification of a vaccine appointment is permitted and will be accommodated to use work time to receive the vaccine with prior notification to the employee's supervisor. Please give as much notice as possible.
4. Anyone accessing the campus will be asked to provide voluntary disclosure of COVID-19 vaccination status.
5. To protect the learning environment in our facilities and mitigate teaching disruptions, a**ll USAHS students, faculty (including lab assistants and contributing faculty) and staff will be asked to voluntarily disclose and agree to provide documentation** that they have been fully vaccinated for COVID-19**.** Those who are **not fully vaccinated or do not wish to disclose their vaccination status** will be required to submit proof of a **negative COVID-19 test taken within seven days prior to each campus entry.** In other words, the COVID-19 testing date cannot be older than seven days from the date of entry.
6. You are considered **fully vaccinated** if you have received your primary series of COVID-19 vaccines. Effective February 14, the University of St. Augustine for Health Sciences will consider you fully vaccinated and up to date if you have received all recommended COVID-19 vaccines, including any booster dose(s) when eligible.
   Specifically, this means:
   • A Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson and Johnson vaccine dose within the last five months. The five-month timing starts from the second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine and

the single dose of the Johnson and Johnson vaccine; **OR**
• A booster shot, if eligible. In other words, if your vaccination of the Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson and Johnson exceeds five months as defined in the prior point, you will need to have the booster to maintain full vaccination status at USAHS.
• Reference the CDC website for more information.

7. **Vendors and allowable campus visitors** will be required to follow the same protocol as the students, faculty and staff. Children under two years old will be exempt and allowed on campus only if participating in a pediatric lab activity.

8. **Tests** must have either Emergency Use Authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration or be operating per the Laboratory Developed Test requirements by the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. This includes both PCR and Rapid Tests. In addition to FDA and Medicaid approval, the test must be administered by a healthcare professional or a licensed pharmacist.

9. Individuals may obtain testing at no cost. USAHS will not reimburse anyone for COVID-19 testing if the tester chooses to use a pay-for-testing site.

10. Anyone entering any USAHS campus, including any student or employee who is vaccinated, must follow **all** current USAHS health and safety protocols and policies including, but not limited to, quarantine/self-isolation periods, handwashing and hygiene. Following CDC recommendations, recipients of the COVID-19 vaccine will be held to the same quarantine guidelines currently established and in place. Please refer to the Campus Reentry page for updated, detailed policies and procedures.

11. Vaccinated high-risk employees continue to be considered high-risk unless otherwise stated by a medical professional via medical recertification.

12. Campus presence is not mandated for anyone in the high-risk category. Employees should complete the High Risk Accommodation Form and contact HR (HR@usa.edu) with questions.

13. Students required by their clinical site to have the COVID-19 vaccine must make every effort to obtain it. Any student who cannot obtain the COVID-19 vaccine might not be placed in their clinical rotation as a requirement of the clinical site. In that case, an attempt will be made to find an alternate clinical placement; however, if an alternate placement cannot be found, the student risks delay in completion of the student's program. In addition, any student who refuses to get the COVID-19 vaccine might be removed from their clinical site and risk delaying their graduation. Students required to obtain a COVID-19 vaccine will need to show evidence of receiving the complete COVID-19 vaccine series/dosage prior to beginning their clinical rotation.

Resources

- **Centers for Disease Control & Prevention**
  - COVID-19 Vaccination

    - COVID-19 Vaccine Questions and Answers
    - Facts about COVID-19 Vaccines
    - Benefits of Getting Vaccinated
    - Preparing for Your COVID-19 Vaccination
- **World Health Organization**
    - COVID-19 Vaccines
- **Johns Hopkins University**
    - COVID-19 Vaccine: What You Need to Know
- **Mayo Clinic**
    - Get the facts about COVID-19 vaccines
- **California**
    - California State COVID-19 Vaccine Information
    - San Diego County COVID-19 Vaccine
- **Florida**
    - Florida State COVID-19 Vaccine Information
    - Miami-Dade County COVID-19 Vaccines
    - St. Augustine/St. John's County
- **Texas**
    - Texas Department of State Health Services COVID-19 Vaccine Information
    - Austin COVID-19 Vaccine page
    - Dallas County COVID-19 Vaccine page
    - Tarrant County COVID-19 Vaccine page
- **U.S. Food & Drug Administration**
    - COVID-19 Vaccines
- **U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission**
    - What You Should Know about COVID-10 and the ADA, the rehabilitation Act and Other EEO Laws