



PLU COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for Faculty and Staff

June 2021

On May 21, the governor issued a Healthy Washington Proclamation [20-15.13](#) requiring employers to obtain proof of vaccination or obtain a self-attestation from each employee, certifying their fully vaccinated status, before the employee may work at a worksite without wearing a mask.

The Washington State Department of Health will issue guidance for Higher Education which makes it clear that only campuses requiring students, faculty and staff to be vaccinated will be allowed to eliminate physical distancing and other extensive mitigation requirements this summer and fall.

As a result of these two important developments, and in order for PLU to return to anything resembling a normal, in-person campus this fall, it is a requirement that all PLU students, faculty and staff be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

In order for PLU to comply with the Governor's proclamation, we are choosing a simple [attestation form](#) by which employees can certify their full vaccination status. We are not asking for vaccination cards, however PLU does reserve the right to randomly verify vaccination status.

Department heads will be provided with a list of individuals who are permitted to work without facial coverings or physical-distancing requirements. This information will be continuously updated as employees complete the attestation.

Faculty and staff should plan to complete their vaccine series as soon as possible, but no later than two weeks prior to the start of fall semester. This allows sufficient time to reach fully vaccinated status before the start of the academic year. You can find COVID-19 vaccine appointments in Washington State [here](#).

Exemptions

Faculty and staff with documented medical or religious/right of conscience exemptions will be accommodated and not required to receive the vaccine. Medical exemptions are based on CDC contraindications for the vaccine and must be discussed with and signed off by a healthcare provider. Exemption forms may be found on the Human Resources [Documents and Forms](#) webpage.

Given unknown vaccine requirements of foreign jurisdictions, exemptions may preclude participation in international Study Away programs.

Questions concerning exemptions should be directed to Human Resources.

Exempt and partially vaccinated employees

Employees that are exempt and those employees waiting to complete their vaccine series must comply with additional mitigation protocols, including:

- Wearing a mask in most indoor and some outdoor settings
- Following the CDC and Washington State recommendations to quarantine if exposed to a positive case
- Quarantining and testing prior to and upon return from travel out of state

The university will continue to review CDC and Washington State guidance to inform policy and procedures.

Employees with COVID-19-like symptoms

Any employee who develops illness symptoms consistent with COVID-19, regardless of vaccination status should contact their healthcare provider for evaluation and possible COVID-19 testing.

Please visit our [COVID-19 Vaccine FAQs](#) for further information.