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**Averett University Vaccine Requirement**

**Students’ Frequently Asked Questions – Updated**

*Last updated Oct. 25, 2021*

**What are the consequences for unvaccinated students?**

The vaccine requirement deadline has passed, and those not yet vaccinated or exempt are out of compliance. The University continues to reach out to individuals for whom the decision to vaccinate has been difficult.

Students who are not yet vaccinated have received notification that they have a registration hold on their account and they must continue to undergo weekly COVID-19 PCR testing. Those who do not provide proof of testing every week will continue to lose some on-campus privileges and will be referred to Student Conduct.

As we continue to monitor vaccination rates and active infection rates, we will decide which privileges may need to be restricted for unvaccinated individuals. This could include, but is not limited to, restricting the following:

* Access to certain areas of campus (i.e, not eating in dining hall and using grab-and-go instead).
* Attendance or participation in co-curricular activities like athletics or other University sponsored events.
* Entrance into residence hall other than their assigned room and community bath (the privilege to remain in a particular room may be reviewed at any time).
* Membership and/or participation in any club or organization of the University.

Students planning to return for spring 2022 will need to be fully vaccinated.

**If I have an immunization hold, how soon after receiving the vaccine will my hold be removed?**

If all other vaccine requirements have been met, then your registration hold will be removed within two business days of providing proof of your first COVID-19 vaccine shot via LiveSafe. Students choosing a two-dose vaccine (Pfizer or Moderna) must still complete the second shot in the prescribed amount of time (21 days for Pfizer, or 28 days for Moderna) or they will be withdrawn.

To return in January, students must be fully vaccinated.

**If I get my first shot of Pfizer or Moderna, do I still need to undergo weekly testing until my second shot?**

No, unless you are a student-athlete. Student-athletes will have to continue to test until they are fully vaccinated.

If you get the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine and do not get your second shot in the subsequent required time, you will have to return to weekly testing until receiving the second shot.

**I’m unvaccinated and have had a hard time finding testing options locally. What can I do?**

A new COVID-19 PCR testing kiosk is now available on campus for all students and employees in the Lower Commons parking lot on Main Campus. This service will be available Monday-Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Be sure to bring your insurance cards with you in order to use it. This is available to anyone, regarding of vaccination status, needing a COVID-19 test.

For questions, contact health@averett.edu.

**I’m a senior graduating in December and am not vaccinated. Can I still participate in Commencement?**

All graduating students will be allowed to participate in our Winter Commencement ceremonies on December 11, including those from Averett Online (for whom the vaccine requirement did not apply because they are not on our campuses).

Anyone unvaccinated will be required to provide a negative test result prior to participating in the ceremonies. More details are forthcoming.

**If I am a senior scheduled to graduate after the spring semester and I am not vaccinated, can I finish in online courses?**No. There are limited number of online courses offered in the spring through the Traditional program and the Averett Online program, and it is highly unlikely that the courses you need to graduate will be offered online.

**If I’ve recently had COVID-19, how soon after can I be vaccinated? How long will the antibodies be in my body?**

The CDC states that you may have antibodies up to 90 days after an active infection. However unless you received Monoclonal Antibodies or Convalescent Plasma, you may get vaccinated 30 days after your symptoms subside; you do not have to wait 90 days to get vaccinated.

**Do I still need to get vaccinated if my antibody testing show that I have antibodies?**

Testing positive on a commercial antibody test does not tell us anything about your ability to fight off a future SARS-CoV-2 infection. These tests have no capability of showing what your levels of neutralizing antibodies are from that commercial antibody blood test. Therefore the CDC continues to recommend that even those who test and show that they have antibodies be vaccinated.

**Does being vaccinated affect quarantine or isolation?**

Per CDC recommendations, vaccinated students who are asymptomatic do not have to quarantine after an exposure.

If you are unvaccinated and exposed to COVID-19 – regardless if you are experiencing symptoms or not – you will have to go home for quarantine or isolation. This means missing classes, games, practices, campus activities, time with friends and more.

**Can I be refunded if I choose to leave the University?**

Students who decide to withdraw prior to the end of the semester should review the refund policy [here](https://www.averett.edu/financial-aid/financial-services/student-accounts/credit-balancewithdrawal-polices-traditional/).

**Can I enroll at Averett in the spring if I’m not vaccinated?**

No. At this time, returning and new students for spring 2022 will need to be vaccinated or have an approved medical or religious exemption.