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University of Maine System UMS_Community Guidance_Students - Together for Maine - COVID-19 Student FALL Vaccination Requirements

University of Maine System

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Students

Together for Maine Plan

- University of Maine System COVID-19 Information
- Voluntary Vaccination Reporting (External Site)
- Dr. Nirav Shah: This Is Our Shot Maine (External Site)

Community Guidance

- Everyone
- Students
- Employees
- Travelers

Recent Updates

- Together for Maine Daily Briefing and COVID-19 Data Update: 11/30/21 November 30, 2021
- Together for Maine Daily Briefing and COVID-19 Data Update: 11/29/21 November 29, 2021
- Together for Maine Daily Briefing and COVID-19 Data Update: 11/24/21 November 24, 2021

Earlier Updates

- November 2021 (19)
- October 2021 (20)
- September 2021 (8)
- August 2021 (1)
- May 2021 (6)
- April 2021 (21)
- March 2021 (22)
- February 2021 (20)
- January 2021 (6)
- December 2020 (9)
- November 2020 (30)
- October 2020 (31)
- September 2020 (28)
- August 2020 (11)
- June 2020 (1)
- April 2020 (9)
- March 2020 (25)
- February 2020 (1)

For Students

COVID-19 Student Winter and Spring Vaccination Requirements (11/04/2021)	+
Face covering requirements (10/26/2021)	+
Additional information about the vaccination requirement: withdrawals and refunds; how to obtain the COVID-19 vaccine; verifying your vaccination status; seeking an exemption and the consequences of not doing so; replacing your vaccination card and more (09/01/2021)	+
COVID-19 Student FALL Vaccination Requirements (08/23/2021)	-

This document states the University of Maine System's COVID-19 vaccination requirements for students for the fall 2021 semester and provides exemptions for students in the following groups – documented medical contraindication, sincerely held religious belief and remote learning only. These requirements may be revisited as the COVID-19 pandemic develops; and as public health best practices change or emerge; and based on current law.

COVID-19 Student Vaccination Requirements:

For the fall 2021 semester, any student who is participating in any on-campus experience and is not fully vaccinated against COVID-19 with a vaccine that is either fully approved by the FDA, approved under the FDA emergency use authorization, or approved by the World Health Organization (WHO), will be required to adhere to public safety protocols to include masking, regular asymptomatic testing (may include multiple tests per week), and as applicable, quarantine and isolation consistent with University standards.

Fully vaccinated is defined as two weeks after the second dose in a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or two weeks after a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.

No later than two weeks from the effective date of this document (August 20, 2021), all students are required to log in and verify their information through the [University of Maine System \(UMS\) online COVID-19 vaccination verification portal \(External Site\)](#). Students planning to be fully vaccinated should receive their first vaccination as soon as possible, but no later than two weeks after the effective date of this document (August 20, 2021).

No later than ten weeks from the effective date of this document (October 15, 2021), all students are required to complete one of the following:

1. Verify that they have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 with a vaccine that is either fully approved by the FDA, or approved under the FDA emergency use authorization, or approved by the World Health Organization (WHO). A request for verification is required to be submitted and approved through the UMS online COVID-19 vaccination verification portal (<https://umaineportal.pointnclick.com/>). Students are encouraged to verify their first vaccination through the [UMS online COVID-19 vaccination verification portal \(External Site\)](#) as soon as their first vaccination is received and then, if receiving a two shot COVID-19 vaccine, to enter their second vaccination through the [UMS online COVID-19 vaccination verification portal \(External Site\)](#) as soon as their second vaccination is received; or
2. Obtain an exemption from the University's COVID-19 vaccination requirement. Requests for exemptions are required to be submitted and approved through the [UMS online COVID-19 vaccination verification portal \(External Site\)](#). Additionally, all exempt, unvaccinated students are required to adhere to public safety protocols to include masking, regular asymptomatic testing (may include multiple tests per week), and as applicable, quarantine and isolation consistent with University standards.

Exemptions to Vaccination Requirements:

1. **Documented medical contraindication:** a written statement from a licensed physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant that, in the provider's professional judgment, immunization may be medically inadvisable.
2. **Sincerely held religious belief:** a signed statement from the student, or guardian if the student is a minor, that the student's sincerely held religious beliefs are contrary to the COVID-19 vaccination requirement.
3. **Remote learning only:** a signed statement from the student, or guardian if the student is a minor, that the student will only enroll in remote learning courses that involve no participation in an on-campus experience at any University location. Because not all courses are available in an online modality, students who choose this option understand, agree and accept that this may limit their educational options and that, depending on degree program or course of study, it may not be possible to complete a course of study through remote learning only.

Students in a higher risk category, or with severe illness or underlying health conditions or other applicable circumstances who may need disability accommodations in connection with this protocol should [contact the disability or accessibility services office on their campus](#).

The University of Maine System (UMS) will engage in active outreach to students who have not submitted their fully vaccinated status or received an exemption.

After October 15, 2021, unvaccinated, non-exempt students will not be permitted in classrooms, residence halls, or other University facilities and will not be permitted to participate in on-campus experiences or University activities, except that students who have started a course of COVID-19 vaccination but are not fully vaccinated (defined as two weeks after the second dose in a two-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or two weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine) by October 15, 2021, should submit this information through the [UMS online COVID-19 vaccination verification portal \(External Site\)](#). Such students will be permitted to continue their on-campus experience provided they timely become fully vaccinated and comply with public safety protocols to include masking, regular asymptomatic testing (may include multiple tests per week), and as applicable, quarantine and isolation consistent with University standards.

Public safety protocols, in addition to those listed above, may be implemented by the University at any time, as appropriate to respond to the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, public health best practices, civil authority and law. For example, the University may require universal masking, move all courses online, or may require that unvaccinated students, even those with an exemption, will not be permitted in classrooms, residence halls, or other University facilities and will not be permitted to participate in certain University activities during the course of the COVID-19 pandemic if it is determined that such action is appropriate for the safety of the University community taking into account the evolving COVID-19 pandemic, public health best practices, civil authority and law.

Students remain responsible for payment of all tuition and fees assessed to their account.

Compliance:

- Students participating in any on-campus experience will be required to verify their ongoing compliance with the UMS COVID-19 protocols through a University-designated electronic platform.
- Student Conduct Code violations should be addressed consistent with the current Code. In general, refusal to engage in COVID-19 testing, vaccination, or other requirements may be resolved through a transition to remote learning and absence from campus without the need to resort to the Code. However, certain extenuating circumstances may require a case-by-case approach. The Office of General Counsel and each campus' Office of Student Affairs are available to assist with such case-by-case review. Anyone who is concerned about a violation of the pandemic protocol requirements may report that concern by calling 207-581-2681 or emailing umaine.alerts@maine.edu.

Effective Date: August 4, 2021. This document will be in effect for four months from the effective date and may be revised, discontinued or extended at any time.

Exemptions from quarantine and testing for fully vaccinated students (08/18/2021)	+
Direct Deposit (05/14/2021)	+
Resources for Mental and Emotional Well-Being (05/18/2021)	+

Campus-Specific Return Information



[UMS COVID-19 Risk Statement](#)