

Frequently Asked Questions

Exemptions from the Required COVID-19 Vaccination

How do I request a medical exemption?

Through the myhealth.du.edu portal, provide the Health & Counseling Center with a letter from a licensed healthcare or mental health care provider experienced in treating the relevant condition or factor requiring an exemption. For individuals under 18, a parent or guardian must sign the exemption form. Individuals 18 or older must submit their own exemption form.

How do I request a non-medical exemption?

Some exemptions can be made for non-medical exemptions, for example, sincerely held beliefs or significant concerns about the COVID-19 vaccines or vaccination generally. To apply for a non-medical exemption, indicate the basis for the request on the form submitted to the Health & Counseling Center. For individuals under 18, a parent or guardian must sign the exemption form. Individuals 18 or older must submit their own exemption form.

When will more information about exemptions forms be available?

DU's COVID-19 coordinator will make those forms available soon and well ahead of the deadline.

Will individuals who are not fully vaccinated be able to participate in all on-campus activities such as athletic events, social events, etc.

Individuals who are not fully vaccinated will have access to in-person activities as much as possible while maintaining their own safety and the safety of the DU community.

However, should conditions change (for example, if the current pandemic results in increased positivity on campus or in the region or if public health guidance changes), those who are not fully vaccinated may be excluded from campus. Individuals who are not fully vaccinated will likely also need to follow additional mitigation protocols, such as quarantining before arriving on campus, after travel, or following exposure to COVID-19, more frequent testing, social distancing, and wearing face coverings.

We will develop detailed protocols close to the start of fall term and will revise the protocols as needed throughout the academic year.

If a student who is not fully vaccinated is excluded from campus due to changes in campus conditions or public health guidance, will the University refund housing, tuition, fees or other expenses?

If there is a change in conditions requiring unvaccinated individuals to be excluded from campus for their safety and the safety of the community, DU will offer remote learning to those unvaccinated individuals. However, for 2021-22 academic year, the

University will not offer hyflex classes and remote course offerings will be limited for vaccinated individuals.

Will students who are not fully vaccinated share residence hall rooms with vaccinated students?

Individuals who are not fully vaccinated will not share residence hall rooms with fully vaccinated student. Students who are not fully vaccinated will be placed with other students who are not fully vaccinated or assigned based on housing availability. Students' housing placements may change if their vaccination status changes or based on changing conditions on campus, in the surrounding community, and in the state.

Once I am granted an exemption, is it permanent or do I have to reapply each year?

Individuals must request an exemption each academic year by submitting a form to the Health & Counseling Center. The University may reconsider the availability of exemptions based on factors such as the Food & Drug Administration granting full approval for a COVID-19 vaccine rather than the current emergency-use-authorization, a change in CDC guidance regarding vaccine safety, or evidence to augment the already strong observational/correlational data regarding the ability of vaccination to limit spread of the virus and the development of variants, or higher positivity rates on campus, in the surrounding community, or in the state.

If a student has had COVID-19 or has been tested and verified there are antibodies present, do they still need to get vaccinated?

Yes, current CDC recommendations for COVID-19 vaccination do not exclude those who have had the virus or those who test positive for antibodies.

Who does the vaccination requirement apply to?

Everyone working, living, or learning in person is expected to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 no later than September 1 or, in the case of students, by your return to campus for fall term, whichever comes first. This requirement applies to those studying or working in person, even if the in-person activity does not occur on campus (e.g., study abroad, other off-campus programs, or conducting DU business in other locations). Similarly, vaccination is required of those who sometimes engage in-person, even if not regularly.

I received the Astra-Zeneca vaccine. Should I still submit my records?

If you have received an Astra-Zeneca vaccine, please upload your vaccination records and we will provide additional information closer to the fall term.

Where do exemption forms live?

To submit an exemption request or to learn more about the limited exemptions, please visit the [Health & Counseling Center COVID Vaccination page](#).