



COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

PURPOSE:

MBU has a duty to provide and maintain a campus that is free of known hazards. Therefore, we are adopting this policy to safeguard the health of MBU students, faculty, and staff from COVID-19 that can be reduced by vaccination. This policy will comply with all applicable laws and is based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local health authorities.

POLICY:

- All students (age 16 or older), faculty, and staff are required to provide proof of vaccination from COVID-19 unless a reasonable accommodation is approved (see exemptions below). Individuals should present written documentation of immunization as outlined below.
- This policy applies to the following categories of students, faculty, and staff:
 - Students: residential undergraduates, commuter undergraduates, in-seat MDCHS graduate students, and Shakespeare and Performance graduate students
 - Faculty: full-time, part-time, and adjunct faculty who teach in-person
 - Staff: full-time and part-time staff
- This policy does not apply to MBU Online students or faculty who do not normally teach in-person

PROCEDURE:

Obtaining a Vaccine

- Currently, three vaccines are authorized and recommended in the United State to prevent COVID-19: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen. Full vaccination status is considered after 2 weeks following the second dose in a 2 doses series for (Pfizer BioNTech or Moderna) or following 2 weeks after a single dose (J&J).

- Individuals can get a COVID-19 vaccine within their community prior to returning to campus.
 - In Virginia:
 - Visit vaccinate.virginia.gov for the latest vaccine scheduling information from the Virginia Department of Health.
 - Seek an appointment from a pharmacy provider. Visit vaccinefinder.org to see area providers.
 - Outside Virginia:
 - Consult this [state-by-state vaccine guide](#) to determine the status of vaccines in your location and plan your vaccine.
 - Seek an appointment from a pharmacy provider. Visit vaccinefinder.org to see area providers.
- MBU will offer immunizations on campus in the fall for those who return without proof of immunization. Individuals will not be allowed to remain on campus if they do not get immunized or do not have a medical or religious exemption on file.

Reporting Vaccination Status

- Students, faculty, and staff will provide a copy of their immunization record through the Chief Health Officer's office. Details on this process will be shared in the near future.

Applying for Medical or Religious Exemptions

- Medical Exemption: Medical exemptions/accommodations from this policy require a written certification from a licensed medical provider (physician, nurse practitioner, physician assistant) of one of the following:
 - History of previous allergic reaction to indicate an immediate hypersensitivity reaction to a component of the vaccine.
 - A physical condition or medical circumstances relating to the person are such that immunization is not considered safe.
- Students should submit their written medical certification to the Student Health Center. Faculty and staff should submit their written certification to the Chief Medical Officer.
- Religious Exemption: MBU provides for a religious exemption to the required immunization if the individual objects on the grounds that the administration of the

vaccine conflicts with their religious beliefs.

- Students - the student or their parent or guardian may submit a notarized Certificate of Religious Exemption to the Student Health Clinic. The Certificate of Religious Exemption is an affidavit stating that the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the student's religious tenets or practices.
- Faculty/Staff - Individuals may submit a notarized Certificate of Religious Exemption to the Chief Health Officer. The Certificate of Religious Exemption is an affidavit stating that the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the individual's religious tenets or practices.
- Certificate of Religious Exemption forms:
 - [Student form](#)
 - [Faculty and Staff form](#)