



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 12 and 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 (including Program for the Exceptionally Gifted students), commuter undergraduates, in-seat and hybrid MDCHS graduate students (PA, PT, OT, and DNP 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 in individuals aged 18 and older: Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen. The Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine was given full FDA approval for individuals aged 16 and older on August 23, 2021, and continues to be recommended for individuals aged 12-15 under FDA Emergency Use Authorization.

Moderna and Johnson & Johnson/Janssen are recommended for use in individuals aged 18 and older under FDA Emergency Use Authorization. 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 by visiting vaccinefinder.org to see area providers.
- Individuals will not be allowed to remain on campus as employees or as students or residents 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 or exemption request through [Sentry MD](#), a secure, online medical records reporting platform.

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, faculty, and staff should submit their written medical certification via [Sentry MD](#) for review by 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. 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. The Certificate of Religious Exemption is an affidavit stating that

the administration of immunizing agents conflicts with the individual's religious tenets or practices.

- All religious exemption applications should be submitted via [Sentry MD](#) for consideration by the Chief Medical Officer.
- Certificate of Religious Exemption forms:
 - [Student form](#)
 - [Faculty and Staff form](#)
- Any unvaccinated student, faculty, or staff member with an approved exemption will be required to participate in weekly COVID-19 testing. [See testing policies](#) for details.