



November 2, 2021

Subject: Vaccine Requirement and Other Updates

Dear Student:

Our response to the pandemic continues to evolve based on science, data, and the advice of public health experts. Some restrictions and practices were lifted when the science and public health data no longer supported them. Other, new policies and facility improvements were added--so that we could continue to keep you healthy and confident in your safety on our campus as you return to physical classrooms, labs and studios. Our goal has never been to eliminate all risk but rather to prevent outbreaks of COVID-19 on our campus. Our goal has never been to take away student choices but rather to add to those choices, particularly for the vast majority of students who support health and safety measures and want to be able to choose face-to-face classes and labs again and partake in a robust campus life that has been missing for over a year and a half.

In order to offer that choice to return to campus to all students and to provide the rich campus experience most of you want without compromising health and safety, the South Orange County Community College District, like most community colleges and all UCs and CSUs, has approved a vaccine requirement for all students taking face-to-face spring semester classes at Irvine Valley College, Saddleback College or ATEP and all adult students taking classes at satellite centers, effective January 8, 2022.

We know that students may have questions about providing evidence of vaccination and/or medical and religious exemptions. While our District is finalizing the process, we want you to know that students must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 to take face-to-face classes. Those who take only online classes and who wish to make scheduled appointments for support only online will not need to be vaccinated. Students who do fall under the vaccine requirement will also have an opportunity to apply for a medical or religious exemption, with twice-weekly COVID-19 testing required.

If you plan to take a face-to-face or a hybrid class this spring semester and have not yet been vaccinated, we strongly recommend that you do so now. You will need to provide proof of your vaccination record from the state vaccination registry by the January 8, 2022 deadline.

Instructions on how to provide your evidence of vaccination or apply for an exemption will be emailed to you if you register for a face-to-face or hybrid class. In the meantime, you can visit <https://myvaccinerecord.cdph.ca.gov/> to get a link to a QR code and digital copy of your COVID-19 vaccination record.

If you anticipate taking face-to-face classes, thus falling under the vaccine requirement, but would like to apply for an exemption from the District's COVID-19 vaccine requirement, there will be two options to make a vaccine exemption/accommodation request:

- A vaccine-related exemption due to a personal medical condition
- A vaccine-related exemption due to a sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance

Links to the request forms will be provided with the instructions for evidence of vaccination after you have completed registration for an in-person class. Please be advised that making an accommodation request is not a guarantee of approval.

If you are not currently vaccinated and plan to be for the spring semester, you will need to complete one of the following options in order to be **fully vaccinated** by January 8, 2022.

- Receive one dose of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine (also known as Janssen COVID-19 vaccine) by December 25, 2021 (two weeks before January 8, 2022); or
- Receive two doses of the Pfizer vaccine (also known as COMIRNATY vaccine), with your first dose by December 4, 2021 and second dose by December 25, 2021; or
- Receive two doses of the Moderna vaccine, with your first dose by November 27, 2021 and second dose by December 25, 2021.
- The Moderna vaccine is available in the Saddleback College Student Health Center. Please call (949) 582-4606 to schedule an appointment.
- Irvine Valley College will hold a vaccination clinic with Memorial Care Clinic for the Pfizer vaccine on November 18 from 11-2 pm. Appointments are available on the [IVC website](#).

Please continue to watch your email for additional updates and instructions. We thank you for your continued efforts to keep our campus community safe.

Sincerely,

Dr. Elliot Stern, President
Saddleback College



Welcome to
OPPORTUNITY.