



Dear West Valley-Mission College Students,

As we prepare to enter the fifth week of the semester, we are hopeful that you are doing well. We have worked hard at the West Valley-Mission Community College District (WVMCCD) to provide learning and student services options that best fit your needs while maintaining a safe and healthy environment on both campuses.

Yesterday, our WVMCCD Board of Trustees voted unanimously to adopt a COVID-19 vaccination mandate and testing program for all students, faculty, and staff, across the district. As part of the implementation of this new policy, all Fall students will be required to declare their vaccination status via a COVID-19 Compliance Declaration Form by November 1, 2021. Please note you are considered “fully vaccinated” two weeks after completing the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine (e.g., Pfizer or Moderna) or two weeks after receiving a single dose of a one-dose vaccine (e.g., Johnson & Johnson/Janssen). If you are exclusively learning remotely and do not plan to be on campus in the fall, you are not required to be vaccinated, but we strongly encourage you to do so.

Students currently enrolled in in-person coursework, working on campus, and/or planning to participate in on-campus programs/activities/services, must either be fully vaccinated by November 1, 2021, or they must begin a twice weekly testing protocol which will be provided on campus free of charge. Regardless of your vaccination status, remember that you are required to wear a mask when indoors at any campus facility.

In the coming weeks, we will send additional information and instruction on how to submit your COVID-19 Compliance Declaration, details on the free testing options for fall students who are not vaccinated, and additional information on applying for an exemption due to an ADA-qualifying medical disability or valid religious documentation. Note, if you receive an exemption, you will also be required to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 test twice weekly.

WINTER & SPRING 2022 PLANNING: If you plan to attend in-person classes or utilize onsite services during the Spring semester, you must be fully vaccinated or qualify for a medical or religious exemption (bi-weekly testing will be required) to do so. Please note that the twice a week testing alternative being provided this Fall will no longer be offered during the Spring Semester. Registration for the winter session and spring semester begins on November 16. The vaccination process can take up to six weeks, so do not delay making your first appointment, which you can do by visiting myturn.ca.gov. Both colleges are also working on having COVID-19 vaccines available on campus in the coming weeks.

We know the pandemic has been a challenging time for everyone, and we are committed to continuing to do all we can to support your West Valley-Mission College experience. The West Valley-Mission Community College District is continuing to take the necessary precautions to keep you safe while following the guidance of the Santa Clara County Public Health Department, the state, and the CDC. Your safety will continue to be our highest priority. While a vaccination mandate is not a perfect tool, it adds an important additional layer of protection beyond mandatory face coverings on campus, appropriate distancing, enhanced air circulation, and enhanced sanitation practices that are already in place.

We thank you in advance for your patience and attention to helping us keep our campus safe for everyone. Be on the lookout for additional updates as we move forward through the fall semester and into Winter/Spring.

If you have additional questions, please visit our WVMCCD COVID-19 information page: <https://wvm.edu/covid-19/Pages/default.aspx>

Thank You,

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