

Dear Members of the Keystone College Community:

I would like to share an important update with you regarding our college COVID-19 vaccination policy.

As you may know, earlier this week, the federal Food and Drug Administration (FDA) announced it has removed the emergency use status for the Pfizer vaccine. Earlier this summer, we informed you that once the FDA lifted its “emergency authorization” status for one of the World Health Organization authorized COVID-19 vaccines, Keystone College would require all students and college employees to receive an authorized COVID-19 vaccine. According to our previous announcement, our vaccine policy is now in effect for all students who take in-person classes, as well as faculty and staff who work on campus. We expect the FDA will soon approve other vaccines as well. Removal of the “emergency use” authorization places the COVID-19 vaccination in the same category as vaccines for diseases such as mumps/measles/rubella, tetanus, and meningitis.

To be clear, individuals can receive the Pfizer vaccine or any other COVID-19 vaccine approved by the World Health Organization to be compliant with Keystone College’s COVID-19 vaccination policy. As most vaccines are a two-dose process, we will allow a maximum two-month time period for students to become “fully vaccinated.” Once their vaccination cycle is complete, students taking in-person, on-campus classes will be expected to email a picture of their vaccination card to Keystone Wellness Coordinator [Carla Salsman](#). Online students and students taking courses at off-campus locations do not need to provide health records. Employees are expected to document their vaccination status with the Human Resources Department. Students and employees should have this process completed no later than October 29, 2021.

For students who have medical or religious reasons to be exempt from receiving the vaccination, the Counseling and Well-Being Center staff will provide a form for students to apply for a [medical](#) or [religious](#) exemption. These exemption requests will be reviewed by a committee that

will notify students if their request has been approved. Employees who have medical or religious reasons to be exempt may complete a waiver request with the Human Resources Department.

Free vaccine clinics will be offered at Keystone, including one on Thursday, August 26 from 8:30 a.m.– 4 p.m. Two vaccination options, Johnson & Johnson and Pfizer, will be available to interested Keystone College students and employees. Please click [here](#) to register. Another clinic, offering the Moderna vaccine, will be held on-campus on Friday, September 3. Anyone wanting an appointment may email [Carla Salsman](#). Vaccinations are also available at various locations in the local community.

It is expected that Keystone College students, faculty, and staff will begin to get their COVID-19 vaccinations or have an approved waiver in place in the next two months by October 29, 2021. Failure to provide COVID-19 vaccination records prior to the billing due date before the start of the spring semester 2022 will result in students being dropped from their in-person classes for the spring semester.

Additional updates on our COVID-19 policies will be provided as needed. For more information on all COVID-19 policies, please visit www.keystone.edu/covid/. Our indoor mask-policy for the entire college community remains in effect as previously announced. Once again, we are making this decision out of an abundance of caution for the entire campus community as COVID-19 rates continue to rise locally and nationally, mainly as a result of the Delta Variant. As always, our goal is to provide the safest campus environment possible as we resume in-person learning and campus activities during the fall semester. Thank you to everyone for your continued cooperation and understanding. Please stay safe and healthy.

Sincerely,

Tracy L. Brundage, Ph.D.
President