

CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19)

COVID-19 Student Vaccine Requirement – FAQs for Internal Use Only



Audience: Managers

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COVID-19 Response Team Owner: Clinical and Operations

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Internal Use Only

Question	Answer
Who will be communicating the COVID-19 vaccine changes to the schools and how will that take place?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Persons who have responsibility for scheduling students should coordinate a communication plan with their leadership. This may include education coordinators, graduate medical education programs, HR and managers.Information to communicate includes a template letter to educational institutions, medical exemption form example, and religious exemption form example.Priority communications to consider are schools where we have current or near-term students, schools in the immediate area of the facility, schools who regularly schedule students.
What is the deadline for a student to comply with the COVID-19 vaccine requirement?	Students currently at our facilities are required to receive their last vaccine dose or have an exemption approved by the school by Sept. 21, 2021. Students starting after Sept. 21, 2021, must be fully vaccinated before their start date. Fully vaccinated means two weeks after receiving the second dose in a two-dose series, or two weeks after receiving a single-dose vaccine.
Who is responsible for assuring students comply with the COVID-19 vaccine/exemption requirements?	If a student is not employed by a Trinity Health entity, it is the school's responsibility to assure that any student placed in our facilities comply with our policies, including the requirement to have the COVID-19 vaccine or an

	exemption approved by the school before placement of the student. To assist the schools with their exemption process, we can provide the contents of the exemption documents we are using for their reference. In the event the school does not elect to implement or utilize an exemption process, the school's students will need to be fully vaccinated before they are placed with us.
What documentation is acceptable to evidence vaccination or exemption status for a student?	The revised Educational Affiliation Agreement-Exhibit B signed by a school representative is sufficient.
If a student starts prior to the Sept. 21, 2021, deadline can they complete their rotation?	Only if they are fully vaccinated or have an approved exemption from their institution by Sept. 21, 2021.
What if an employee is not granted an exemption by Trinity Health, but is a student and is granted one by their school? Can they do clinical?	If the individual is both a student and an employee of a Trinity Health facility, that person must have an approved exemption from Trinity Health. Exemptions from the school will not be accepted for these individuals.
I've heard from my colleagues across the state that there are very few exemptions being made. How strict are the requirements for an exemption?	The review committees review the requests very carefully and those which meet the exception criteria are granted and those which do not are denied.
Does a previous COVID-19 diagnosis still require a vaccine?	Yes, vaccination or an approved exemption is still required regardless of a previous diagnosis.
Can you provide some guidance regarding religious exemptions? What is acceptable for a religious exemption?	Trinity Health cannot advise educational institutions on an exemption program. Please direct schools to consult with their legal counsel. See religious exemption form example as a reference.
We have a student who is also refusing to be tested for COVID-19. Can that exemption be granted?	No. There is not a "testing" exemption option, only a medical or religious exemption. If the student's individual concern surrounding testing falls under one of those exemption categories, the student could make a request from the school for an exemption.