

COVID-19 ADDENDUM FOR NEP Student Handbooks

WSU COVID-19 Student Vaccination Policy

Washington State University (WSU), as the state's land-grant university, has an obligation to serve the public and promote the health and safety of the communities it serves. The COVID-19 vaccines, now widely available, have been shown to nearly eliminate the chances of death or serious illness related to a COVID-19 infection, and is a critical element in protecting public health locally and worldwide. The COVID-19 vaccines are also shown to be safe. The [Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine](#) has received full FDA licensure for individuals 16 years and older.

WSU system-wide will require proof of the COVID-19 vaccination for the 2021–2022 academic year for all students engaging in activities at a WSU campus or location.

Beginning **Friday, September 10, 2021**, students will be required to have documented proof of vaccine or an approved exemption/accommodations. Students who fail to meet this requirement will be prevented from registering for spring semester courses and/or face other restrictions. Students with approved exemptions/accommodations may be required to participate in regular COVID-19 testing and/or other COVID-19 public health measures.

Exemptions/accommodations will be allowed for those with sincerely held religious beliefs and for legitimate medical reasons established with appropriate documentation from a health care provider. Information about how to submit proof of vaccination and the process to request an exemption is available on the [Cougar Health Services website](#). As of Monday, August 23, 2021, students can no longer file personal exemptions. Any WSU student with a personal exemption on file must provide proof of full vaccination, or request a religious or medical exemption by **September 10, 2021**.

Supervised Practice and Internship Access

The WSU Department of Nutrition and Exercise Physiology (NEP) partners with health care organizations to provide supervised practice and internship experiences for undergraduate and graduate students. Although medical or religious exemptions exist under WSU policy, it is possible our health care partners may not allow unvaccinated students into their supervised practice and internship settings for reasons that are permitted by law, and WSU NEP cannot control whether these organizations will allow unvaccinated students to access their training site.

If you cannot engage in supervised practice rotations or internships due to your unvaccinated status, it may delay your progression in the program or impact your ability to meet graduation requirements. The department will make a reasonable attempt to find alternative experiences for students who have



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exemptions/accommodations for legitimate medical reasons or sincerely held religious beliefs, but placement cannot be guaranteed.