UCH-MEDIC Vaccination Policy

Requirements

1. As a condition of employment, appointment, or engagement, UCHealth requires an annual influenza vaccine and a completed COVID-19 vaccination series for all students.
   
a. All students must receive both the influenza vaccine and COVID-19 vaccine series through employee health, present a receipt from another source to employee health, or receive a UCHealth approved medical or religious exemption.
   
b. Any student that receives a Live Attenuated Influenza Vaccine must comply with the necessary precautions to avoid potential viral shedding and possible harm to student and patients that may have compromised immune systems. More details are available on The Source and CDC websites.
   
c. Vaccination deadlines Students must be in compliance with the influenza vaccine policy each year by November 12. Students must be in compliance with the COVID-19 vaccination requirements by October 2, 2021, or at time of starting class, or as dictated by current UCHealth guidance.
   
d. This policy does not mandate any specific brand of vaccine. Non-compliance due to brand preference is not an acceptable reason for non-compliance. We recommend that you vaccinate as early as clinically indicated to be able to plan for any vaccine brand preferences.
   
e. "Fully vaccinated" is defined based on current Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) or Advisory Council on Immunization Practices (ACIP) guidelines.

Exemptions

1. Only students providing proper written documentation supporting approved exemptions will qualify to potentially receive an exemption from this policy. Exemptions may not be approved if the accommodation of the exemption creates an undue hardship for UCHealth. Medical exemptions must demonstrate a valid medical condition, severe allergy, or past severe reaction that makes receiving the vaccine contraindicated as described by the product labeling approved or authorized by the FDA. Religious exemptions must demonstrate a sincere religious belief, practice, or observance that supports why the student cannot receive the vaccine.
   
a. Students may request a religious or medical exemption from the COVID-19 and/or influenza vaccine requirements by completing the required online form and submitting documentation deemed appropriate in UCHealth's sole discretion. Each exemption form can be found on the employee health page of The Source.

2. If granted an exemption from the influenza or COVID-19 vaccine, the student member will be required to follow current masking guidelines. UCHealth may change the guideline requirements as it deems appropriate at any time.

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3. If granted an exemption from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement, the student member will be required to comply with masking guidelines, testing requirements as outlined in this policy's associated guideline, and other safety requirements as determined by UCHealth that will reflect the current science related to SARS-CoV-2 virus. UCHealth will consider all federal, state, and local regulations to ensure the safety of student and patients.

**Non-compliance**

1. Students failing to adhere to this policy and related guidelines will be referred to their program directors or equivalent for discipline and may be restricted from work in UCHealth facilities.

2. Due to the changing nature of the COVID-19 pandemic, students are advised to keep up to date with any changes to the COVID-19 guidelines. UCHealth will inform students using typical communications efforts.