

COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate

The University will require students and employees to either receive or affirmatively decline COVID-19 vaccination each year. In the event applicable law or public health orders impose stricter vaccination requirements, the policy will continue to require compliance with those stricter requirements.

In order to be compliant with the Preuss COVID-19 vaccine requirements, incoming students will need to do one of the following prior to their first day of school.

1. The student will provide the Preuss Health office with documentation of a primary vaccine series approved by the Federal Drug Administration (FDA) or the World Health Organization (WHO). For individuals who have received the primary vaccine series, a bivalent booster is strongly encouraged. A single dose of the bivalent booster counts in place of a primary vaccine series, as per the CDC.
2. The parent/guardian will complete the Affirmative Declination form.
3. The parent/guardian will submit a Medical Exemption Form completed by the student's physician. Medical exemption forms are subject to approval by the Preuss Health Office.

FAQs

Why has the policy been updated?

Staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccination remains a critically important way to keep ourselves, our loved ones, and our community safe. The decision to update our policy reflects the welcome fact that we have entered a very different phase in our response, with more than 88 million COVID-19 vaccines having been administered in California.

What COVID-19 Vaccines are authorized for use in the United States?

1. Pfizer-BioNTech
2. Moderna
3. Novavax
4. Johnson & Johnson's Janssen (J&J/Janssen)

What are bivalent vaccines?

The updated vaccines are called “updated” because they protect against both the original virus that causes COVID-19 and the Omicron variant BA.4 and BA.5. Two COVID-19 vaccine manufacturers, Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna, have developed updated COVID-19 vaccines.

What are monovalent (original vaccines)?

Previous COVID-19 vaccines are called “original” because they were designed to protect against the original virus that causes COVID-19.

As of April 18, 2023, the original Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are no longer authorized for use by the FDA in the United States. Updated Pfizer-BioNTech and Moderna COVID-19 vaccines are being used for all age groups.

As of May 6, 2023, [J&J/Janssen COVID-19 vaccine has expired](#) and is no longer available for use in the United States.

What does it mean to be up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations?

Individuals are up to date with the COVID-19 vaccine when they have received 1 updated Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna COVID-19 vaccine, regardless of whether they’ve received any [original COVID-19 vaccines](#).

Where can I get vaccinated?

- Schedule an appointment with your primary care physician
- Call 2-1-1
- Visit myturn.ca.gov
- Visit [SD County’s Website](#)

Where can I get more information?

Visit the [CDC website](#).