



Dear CSUSM Students, Faculty & Staff,

Just a few minutes ago, [the California State University \(CSU\) announced that a new systemwide policy](#) will require students, faculty and staff who are accessing campus facilities at any of the 23 CSU campuses to be immunized against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19. According to the CSU, the new policy that will be released is being implemented without waiting for any further action by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration due to concerns with the Delta variant, which has caused a new surge in COVID-19 cases across California and beyond.

This new policy will come on the heels of [yesterday's announcement](#) by Gov. Newsom that all state employees and health care workers must show proof of vaccination or get tested regularly. This underscores the importance of being vaccinated in the ongoing fight against COVID-19.

As CSU Chancellor Castro emphasized today, receiving the vaccine continues to be the best way to mitigate the spread of the virus. The intent of the CSU announcing this now is to allow people who have not yet been vaccinated as much time as possible to complete the vaccine series before fall term starts.

As soon as the policy is available, we will share more concrete details about what this means for our campus community. In the meantime, **we strongly encourage all students, faculty, staff and administrators to get vaccinated as soon as possible if you have not done so already.** Please note, the policy will allow for exemptions for health or religious purposes.

How to Get Vaccinated for COVID-19

In the United States, everyone 12 years of age or older is eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccination.

The federal government [has set up a very informative website](#) with quick links to find information on where you can find a COVID-19 vaccine near you. In addition, the [CSU Vaccination Information and Resources webpage](#) has comprehensive information and links about the COVID-19 vaccine.

More Clarifying Information to Come

As soon as the CSU policy is finalized, we will share more information with you and update the campus website and FAQs. If you have any questions about this update, you are welcome to email CSUSMasOne@csusm.edu.

Thank You

In just a few weeks our campus will be fully open for the first time since March 2020 when we switched to remote learning and adjusted operations and teaching to a mostly virtual format. While this is great news, we also understand that it comes with ongoing safety concerns for many. Across campus, members of our community are working hard to make sure the fall reopening goes as smoothly and safely as possible. As always, the health and safety of our campus community is the No. 1 priority.

The most critical way to stay healthy – and protect each other and our loved ones – is by getting fully vaccinated against COVID-19 if you are able to. The current rise of the Delta variant only reinforces the importance and value of having a fully vaccinated CSUSM community.

Thank you for your ongoing flexibility and understanding as we continue to navigate ongoing changes related to the pandemic.

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