



Dear CSUSM employees,

Thank you for your understanding and flexibility as we continue to adjust to changing pandemic conditions and new data. We have been tracking the recent surge in cases and the continued emergence of COVID-19 variants, and we want to share updates and information with you as they relate to our campus community.

---

### Masks/Face Coverings

Currently, local, state and national public health officials are strongly recommending indoor masking for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status. The Delta variant is proving to be extremely contagious, and even vaccinated people can still spread the virus, putting at risk those who cannot be vaccinated, including children and immunocompromised people.

Thus, effective immediately, all employees and students will be required to wear a mask indoors while on campus as part of our critical role to prevent the further spread of COVID-19. Unvaccinated individuals will still need to wear a mask outdoors as well when social distancing is not possible.

---

### Returning to Campus – Monday, Aug. 16

Last week we shared that the Aug. 2 return-to-campus date for non-faculty employees was postponed. **The new return-to-campus date is Monday, Aug. 16.** This date has been selected to allow employees who were working remotely enough time to transition back to campus and prepare for the start of the fall semester. Should conditions or circumstances change that require a shift in this plan, we will communicate that as soon as possible.

---

### CSU Vaccination Policy

Health officials continue to emphasize that the best way to protect ourselves, our families and our communities is to receive the vaccine. As you know, the California State University system recently imposed [a new policy](#) – effective immediately – that requires all students and employees (including auxiliary employees) to be fully vaccinated or request an approved exemption by **Sept. 30** if they are accessing campus facilities. Fully vaccinated means that the person received, at least 14 days prior, either the second dose in a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine series or a single-dose COVID-19 vaccine.

---

### Process for Verifying Your Vaccination Status

Proof of vaccination can be uploaded securely through the [CSUSM app](#) by tapping “COVID Resources” followed by “Employee Certification.” Alternatively, employees can visit the online [webpage](#) and follow instructions to attest and upload their vaccination card.

---

### Public Health Testing

All employees and students who are accessing campus are required to vaccinate or participate in weekly COVID-19 testing on campus. On-campus COVID-19 testing is free of charge. Please visit the CSUSM app or the [mandatory testing website](#) to view testing locations and hours, and make an appointment.

---

### Seeking a Vaccination Exemption

Under the CSU policy, medical and religious exemptions are permitted under these guidelines:

- Medical: Due to a medical (including mental health) condition for which an approved vaccine presents a significant risk of a serious adverse reaction. Any medical exemption must be verified by a certified or licensed health care professional.
- Religious: Due to either (i) a person’s sincerely held religious belief, observance or practice, which includes any traditionally recognized religion, or (ii) beliefs, observances or practices that an individual sincerely holds and that occupy a place of importance in that individual’s life, comparable to that of traditionally recognized religions.

On Monday, the exemption process for employees will be shared in a communication. Thank you for your patience as we finalize the online mechanism for requesting an exemption.

---

### Accessing the COVID-19 Vaccine

If you have not received the vaccine yet, we recommend doing so no later than Aug. 20 to ensure that you have enough time to become fully vaccinated by the Sept. 30 deadline.

To find a location where you can get a COVID-19 vaccine, please visit [www.vaccines.gov](http://www.vaccines.gov).

---

### Self-Care and Resources Accessing Vaccines

As we prepare for fall semester, it’s important to remember that self-care continues to be very important. As a reminder, the [Employee Assistance Program](#) can be helpful in navigating work-life balance and offers many services for a wide range of concerns.

In addition, [FACES](#) (for faculty) and the [Staff Center](#) (for staff) offer supportive services and resources that may be helpful to you.

In addition, you are welcome to attend an upcoming virtual event, “[Success of Stress: Thriving in a Chaotic World](#),” on Tuesday, Aug. 24 from 2 to 3 p.m. This webcast has been made available by CSU Learn.

---

### More Information to Come as We Have It

Our community has demonstrated so much flexibility, dedication and resilience throughout the pandemic. None of this has been easy, and we are grateful for all that you are doing to support each other and our students.

In this fluid, ever-changing environment, we will continue to keep you updated with information as we have it. In the meantime, it’s important that we each do our part as a university community to adhere to public health guidelines and care for one another. Vaccinating, using face coverings, frequently washing hands, and checking yourself for symptoms and staying home when sick are all key components of how we can continue to care for one another and keep each other – and our loved ones – safe and healthy.

Share this email:



333 South Twin Oaks Valley  
San Marcos, CA | 92096 US

This email was sent to .

To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

emma

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.