

ADMINISTRATIVE POLICY

Fully Vaccinated Campus

Student COVID requirements and Protocols



Overview

Whatcom Community College (WCC) is a vaccinated campus. As such, the College is required to follow the State of Washington Governor's [Proclamation 20-12.5](#) (issued August 27, 2021), which encourages vaccinations to reach community immunity. This administrative policy outlines requirements for Whatcom Community College students.

This policy is subject to revision or rescindment.

COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement

Proclamation 20-12.5 allows greater flexibility for operations for Institutions of Higher Education that are categorized as "Fully Vaccinated Campuses." Whatcom Community College requires COVID-19 vaccination (or a qualified exemption) for students accessing in-person, on-campus classes and services in order to be deemed a "Fully Vaccinated Campus."

Approved Vaccines

To date, the United States Food & Drug Administration (FDA) has authorized the following COVID-19 vaccines for use:

- [Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine](#)
- [Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine](#) (also referred to as Johnson & Johnson)

In addition, [COVID-19 vaccines that are listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization](#) (WHO) will be recognized by WCC as approved vaccines, particularly for those individuals from non-U.S. countries or territories.

Protocols

The following protocols were developed to uphold Governor Inslee's Proclamation 20-12.5 for Institutions of Higher Education.

1. All WCC students who participate in or attend courses, operations, services or other activities in person at WCC locations must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, unless claiming a medical exemption as permitted by law or a religious exemption.
 - a) Health professions programs with clinical requirements may require vaccinations and recognize only those medical exemptions permitted by law. Participation in health professions programs will be subject to those restrictions, if any.

- b) Other courses with off-campus requirements (e.g., internships, parent education) will be subject to the rules of the specific site, which may also recognize only medical exemptions permitted by law.

2. Attestation Requirement:

- a) Students must complete the student attestation by the first day of each quarter if taking in-person or hybrid courses.
- b) Students who do not complete the attestation process by the first day of each quarter will be withdrawn from in-person or hybrid classes.
- c) Students taking only online courses must complete the student attestation prior to accessing any in-person services.

For purposes of this protocol, a student is fully vaccinated against COVID-19 two weeks after they have received all recommended doses of a [COVID-19 vaccine that is listed for use by the World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#).

3. How to attest:

- a) Students must [report their immunization status](#) to attest vaccination status or exemption status.
 - i. The self-attestation of vaccinated status must include the date(s) when each dose of the COVID-19 vaccine was administered.
 - ii. Exemptions may be declared for medical or religious reasons only.
 - iii. Unvaccinated students are encouraged to pursue online options to promote the health and safety of the campus community.
 - iv. Exemption options are subject to change with subsequent proclamations or decisions by the College.
- b) Students are attesting to the truthfulness of their self-attestation. Students may be subject to legal penalties and/or disciplinary action if their self-attestation is determined to be untruthful in violation of this administrative policy, policy 620 "Student Rights and Responsibilities (Student Conduct Code), and/or Washington State law.
- c) WCC and/or state and local public health officials may require further verification of a student's vaccination status, including observance of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) vaccination card, state immunization information system record, or other documentation as permitted by Washington State law.

4. Violations of this administrative policy may result in disciplinary action.