

## **Bryn Athyn College COVID-19 Vaccination Student Frequently Asked Questions**

### **1. Why is Bryn Athyn College mandating vaccination for COVID-19?**

Over the past few weeks, the college administration began discussions about the details of a COVID-19 vaccination mandate. The consultation process indicated strong support for moving forward with a vaccination requirement. To maintain campus health and safety on campus the COVID-19 vaccination requirement will apply not only to students, but to faculty, academic appointees, staff, interns, trainees and all persons as a condition of physical access to BAC facilities. Being fully vaccinated means you do not have to contact-trace/quarantine if you do not have symptoms. The higher the number of vaccinated individuals on campus means a more open campus.

### **2. Does the proposed policy require vaccination for all students or only those who participate in on-site activities? What about student-athletes?**

The requirement to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination (or to submit a request for exemption on medical or religious grounds) will take effect for all students as a condition of their in-person access to BAC facilities and programs. Those few students whose college programs are primarily remote (student teaching/internships) would still need to provide proof of full vaccination (or submit a request for exemption) before returning to a campus.

The requirement to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination (or to submit a request for exemption on medical or religious grounds) applies to student-athletes. Additional information from the NCAA COVID-19 Medical Advisory group will release further guidance related to practice and competition in the next two weeks. Currently, unvaccinated student-athletes will be subject to special safety measures, like quarantine, frequent asymptomatic testing, and more extensive masking requirements.

### **3. What are the consequences of non-compliance for students?**

Students who choose not to be immunized and who do not receive an approved medical or religious exemption will not meet BAC's health and safety condition for attending in-person classes, events or access to campus facilities including housing. Very few courses will be offered online.

### **4. How will these consequences be enforced?**

We have systems in place for promoting and enforcing compliance with health and safety policies. These will be communicated on a case-by-case basis to non-vaccinated students and will include frequent testing, masking, and other physical distancing processes in keeping with CDC guidance.

### **5. What does 'fully vaccinated' mean? Does it refer to one or two shots depending on vaccine? Does it include a period after the dose for an immune response?**

BAC will require students to show proof that they have received a full dosage of a vaccine ('fully vaccinated'), which currently is either one or two shots depending on the type and manufacturer. Students will be required to submit their proof of being fully vaccinated. Those who are fully vaccinated should submit their proof of vaccination immediately. Those who are in the process of getting vaccinated must notify health services at least two weeks before the first day of fall 2021 instruction or move-in date. The COVID-19 vaccines in use, like most vaccines, take time to stimulate an antibody response that creates resistance to illness. Until you are fully vaccinated, physical distancing, mask-wearing and frequent handwashing and cleaning are expected to continue campus. Please note that campus mitigation efforts may change depending upon current county and CDC guidelines.

## **6. Are medical or religious exemptions allowed?**

Yes. Medical and religious exemption requests will be considered, and if approved, will result in students being subject to special requirements such as increased COVID-19 testing, masking, physical distancing, grab and go meals in the dining hall. The exemption form can be found at the following link <https://brynathyn.edu/student-life/student-health-services/immunization-policy.html> and may be submitted to [Healthcenter@brynathyn.edu](mailto:Healthcenter@brynathyn.edu) or faxed to 267-502-6024.

## **7. Who will maintain the student documentation?**

BAC Health Services will place proof of vaccination or exemption documentation in your confidential medical file. Students will be required to submit an image of their COVID-19 vaccination card to [Healthcenter@brynathyn.edu](mailto:Healthcenter@brynathyn.edu) or faxed to 267-502-6024.

## **8. How can students get vaccines?**

In anticipation of the fall 2021 term, BAC encourages students and their families to look for opportunities near their homes to be vaccinated, such as at local pharmacies or through their personal physician. All people ages 12 and above across the United States are now eligible to receive a vaccine. BAC Student Health Services will also assist students in identifying opportunities for vaccination if they are unable to have vaccination doses completed near their place of residence.

## **9. What if I am not eligible for a vaccine?**

All person's ages 12 and above across the United States are now eligible to receive a vaccine. Students who are eligible for a vaccine but wish to decline it may qualify for an exception (on medical or religious grounds). To allow time for processing such requests, students should submit their requests as soon as possible no later than two weeks before the first day of instruction or move-in.

**10. Will Bryn Athyn College accept internationally approved vaccines even if not authorized or approved in the United States?**

Yes, if the vaccine authorized by the [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#). The [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) has developed a [process](#) for assessing and listing unlicensed vaccines, therapeutics, and diagnostics during a public health emergency. Through that process, several vaccines not available in the United States have received Emergency Use Listing (EUL). A document summarizing the status of a wide range of international vaccines can be found [online on the WHO's website](#). If the mandate is adopted, BAC will, consistent with [CDC](#) and CDPH guidance, accept proof of vaccination with any international vaccine that has been authorized for emergency use by WHO through the EUL process. People who have completed a COVID-19 vaccination series with one of these vaccines *do not need* additional doses with an FDA-licensed or -authorized COVID-19 vaccine, at least initially (but may be subject to subsequent booster requirements). No data are available on the safety or efficacy of receiving a COVID-19 vaccine currently authorized in the US after receipt of a non- FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine. Those who are partially vaccinated or vaccinated with a vaccine not licensed or authorized by FDA and not authorized by WHO will be required to receive an FDA-licensed or authorized vaccine no less than 28 days after their last international vaccination. In the interim, they will be subject to special safety measures, like quarantine, frequent asymptomatic testing, and more extensive masking requirements.

**11. I was vaccinated in a country, where the government increased the time between first and second vaccines longer than US labeling. Do I have to be revaccinated?**

No. If you have proof of completing a series of any FDA-licensed or FDA- or WHO-authorized vaccine consistent with your country's implementation, you will be considered to have complied with the vaccine mandate.

**12. If I can't access any vaccine in my country will I be allowed on campus?**

Yes. You will be allowed on campus but will be referred to a vaccine site to get vaccinated immediately, unless you qualify for a college-approved exemption. Until you are fully vaccinated, you will be subject to special safety measures, like quarantine, frequent asymptomatic testing, and more extensive masking requirements.

**13. Is the COVID-19 vaccination requirement a permanent change to the College's immunization policy that will continue the requirement in future years?**

Vaccination remains the most effective way to bring this pandemic to an end and to prevent a resurgence of the pandemic in local and campus communities. We strongly encourage everyone to be vaccinated as well as to continue physical distancing, mask-wearing and frequent handwashing. The COVID-19 vaccination requirement will be a permanent update to the College's policies and will take effect beginning in the 2021-2022 academic year.

**14. Is immunization against influenza still required?**

A determination has not yet been made whether the influenza immunization recommendation will be continued for the 2021-2022 academic year. Any changes or continuation of that recommendation will be announced later.