

## FAQ Student COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement

### MASSACHUSETTS COMMUNITY COLLEGE COVID-19 VACCINE REQUIREMENT STUDENT FAQ | As of October 28, 2021 - Updated April 2022

#### **Do I have to be vaccinated against COVID-19 to take classes at HCC?**

If you are either a credit or non-credit student and want to register for courses **with any on-campus** component or if you plan on coming to campus to access the library, computer lab, athletic facilities, or other in-person student services – you must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and submit written proof of an official record of full vaccination status.

If you do not expect to be on campus for any reason (for example, taking all online courses), you are not required to be fully vaccinated or to provide written proof of an official record of full vaccination status unless it is required by your program or activity (ex. athletics, healthcare program, clinical placement).

If you would like to come to campus to access college services and facilities, you will be required to provide written proof of your official record of vaccination status before coming to campus.

**What's the deadline for providing proof of my vaccination status?** You must provide proof of full vaccination status or have an approved reasonable accommodation in place prior to registering for any on-campus or hybrid course. See the below definition of “fully vaccinated.”

**How do I provide my written proof of an official record of full vaccination?** Take a photo of your vaccine card and attach it to an email to [immunizations@hcc.edu](mailto:immunizations@hcc.edu). Credit students should include their full name and student ID number in the body of the email. Noncredit students should provide their full name and the name of the course they are registered for in the body of the email. Please note that the attestation of vaccination status will not be accepted as written proof of an official record of full vaccination status.

#### **Will my vaccination record be treated confidentially?**

Vaccination records will be treated in the same confidential manner as other student records.

#### **Can I still register for in-person classes if I have not yet been fully vaccinated?**

No. You must be fully vaccinated or have an approved accommodation in order to register for in-person classes or hybrid classes with an in-person component.

**If I am a high school student who is taking a College course on the College's Campus either face to face or hybrid, am I required to be fully vaccinated?** Yes, the Student Vaccination Policy applies to you. **If I am a high school student taking a College course taught to my class at my high school am I required to be fully vaccinated?** If you are a

high school student taking college classes at your high school and do not come to campus for class, you must follow any vaccine policies set by your school and are not subject to the college's vaccination policy. If however you are accessing the college campus for any reason, including meeting with college staff or accessing the college's library, you must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 or have an approved reasonable accommodation.

**What alternatives are available to me if I am unvaccinated?** Students who are unvaccinated may take online courses and access services remotely. Students may also request a reasonable accommodation where the College will engage in an interactive process to determine if you are eligible for a reasonable accommodation, and if so, whether the requested accommodation is reasonable and does not create an undue hardship to the College or direct threat to the health or safety of others in the learning and working environment, if applicable.

In the event a reasonable accommodation is approved, you may be subject to additional health and safety protocols and/or be excluded from campus and/or college activities including but not limited to travel for the protection of health or safety, as determined by the College in consideration of local, state, and/or federal laws and public health guidance and/or mandates.

**If I am unable to be fully vaccinated, how do I apply for a reasonable accommodation?**

Requests for reasonable accommodation will be considered consistent with applicable laws, legal guidance, and College policy.

- **Credit students** seeking a reasonable accommodation should submit their request using this [Credit Student Covid-19 Vaccination Accommodation Request Form](#).
- **Non-credit students** seeking a reasonable accommodation should complete this [NonCredit Student Covid-19 Vaccination Accommodation Request Form](#) and submit it as indicated on the form.

Please note that the individualized interactive process to determine reasonable accommodations is estimated to take **a minimum of ten (10) business days** following the receipt of satisfactory documentation supporting the student's eligibility for reasonable accommodation. If you are seeking a reasonable accommodation, please submit your request and necessary documentation as soon as possible and without delay but no later than

- May 2 if you want your accommodation request to be reviewed prior to the start of the summer 2022 semester.
- August 1 if you want your accommodation request to be reviewed prior to the start of the fall 2022 semester

**If I register for in-person classes and do not submit proof of vaccination by the start of the semester, what will happen?**

You will not be allowed to register for in-person classes without submitting written proof of an official record of full vaccination or unless you have an approved reasonable accommodation.

**What is the definition of "fully vaccinated"?**

The community colleges are following the CDC's definition of full vaccination status, which currently provides that "[i]n general, people are considered fully vaccinated:

- 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or
- 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine.”

If the CDC changes their definition at any time, the revised definition will be applicable. Please pay close attention to the type of vaccine that you receive and its timing schedule to ensure you are fully vaccinated in time to register for, and attend classes, if you seek to enroll in face-to-face and/or hybrid courses or to access campus for any reason.

**Do I need to have a COVID-19 booster shot to be fully vaccinated and register for courses?**

At this time the booster shot is not required to be fully vaccinated and register for courses at HCC. If this policy changes you will be notified through your HCC email. The CDC does encourage a booster dose. You may email in documentation of your booster to [immunizations@hcc.edu](mailto:immunizations@hcc.edu) .

**If I already had COVID, do I need to be vaccinated?**

Yes. According to the CDC, you are not considered fully vaccinated if you have had COVID-19 but have not been vaccinated.

**How do I get vaccinated?** Click on the link below to find a location near you!

[Vaxfinder](#)

[COVID-19 Mobile Vaccination Programs](#)

[Additional Vaccine Resources](#)