

Covid vaccine booster requirement

1 message

Maud Mandel <msm8@williams.edu> Reply-To: communications@williams.edu To: WILLIAMS-ALL@listserv.williams.edu Mon, Dec 20, 2021 at 12:35 PM

To the Williams community,

As we head into winter break, I first want to thank everyone for doing their part to keep our community safe and our Covid-19 infection rate down. Your diligent attention to vaccination, testing, masking and social distancing requirements—and your care for each other—allowed us to experience a vibrant, fully in-person fall semester together that is as close to "normal" as we've had in quite some time.

As we look ahead to the spring semester, we will continue to monitor CDC guidance for institutions of higher education and may, at times, need to adjust our policies in light of changing circumstances. With this in mind, Williams College will be requiring Covid-19 booster shots for all eligible members of the College community. This decision is being made to help keep our community safe and it is based on careful consideration of public health research.

Effective February 1, 2022, all vaccinated students, faculty and staff must submit proof they have received a booster shot. Any community members who are not eligible for a booster by Feb 1 must receive a booster within 30 days of becoming eligible. Please consult the CDC's vaccine booster shots page to determine your timeline for eligibility. If you have received an exemption from vaccination, it will remain in place for now, though we may need to review or revise exemptions as the virus evolves. We strongly encourage everyone who is able to get vaccinated to do so.

You'll receive a follow-up email in January to outline the process for submitting proof of your booster shot and exemption requests.

If you are unable to get the booster at your local pharmacy or health care provider while you're away from campus, the college is also planning clinics on campus after Winter Break. Stay tuned for more information.

Once again, thank you for your care. I am always impressed with—but never surprised by—our community's concern for one another and the greater good. I hope that the waning days of the semester go smoothly for you and that you have some much-needed and well-deserved time to unwind as 2021 comes to a close.

Warmly, Maud