



SUNY POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Our Residential Life Team is looking forward to welcoming you back to SUNY Poly, and over the summer months have continued to prepare for an engaging and exciting fall semester. This letter is being sent in follow up to the recent update to vaccine requirements and timelines and specifically addresses the deadlines and processes for residential students.

Please note that we paused making new student assignments, including transfer and late student housing requests, while vaccine protocol was reviewed. We will continue our assignment process for new students this week. If you intend to request cancellation and have not received a room, we encourage you to submit your cancellation right away so that we can best make roommate matches.

SUNY Poly has adopted campus regulations requiring vaccinations of all residential students prior to arrival, without regard to full FDA approval. Students who choose not to be vaccinated against COVID-19 will not be eligible for residency. This requirement has been implemented to best support the health and safety of students living together in close proximity, who share social spaces and residential services daily.

Documentation of Vaccination

To meet the vaccine requirements prior to move in, resident students must be vaccinated as soon as possible and submit documentation of vaccination to the Wellness Center at wellnesscenter@sunypoly.edu prior to arriving on campus for the fall 2021 academic term. Resident students must submit vaccine documentation by August 13, 2021 to ensure the Wellness Center staff can confirm their vaccination status prior to residential move in.

Medical Exemptions from the Vaccine

Resident students may be exempt from the vaccination requirement if a duly licensed healthcare provider certifies in writing that the student has a medical contraindication to the COVID-19 vaccine. Residential students requesting consideration for a medical exemption from vaccination requirements must submit an initial application to start the review process in their Housing Self Service via Banner. Log into Banner, Select Student and Financial Aid, Select Housing and Dining and in the Applications Tab, select "COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption with Continued Residency."

Physician certification is also required. Please send certification and all other documents to wellnesscenter@sunypoly.edu, from your SUNY Poly issued email account, after you have completed the Application for COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption. You must submit the certification of a licensed healthcare provider, sufficient information for medical staff to understand the medical basis for the exemption, the necessary length of the exemption, and contact information for the healthcare provider. The SUNY Poly Wellness Center medical staff will review exemption requests in the same manner it considers requests for medical exemptions from MMR immunization requirements. Medical exemptions are reviewed in detail and not automatically approved.



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The application for medical exemption is available NOW and is due by August 13, 2021 for consideration. All supporting medical documentation, as outlined above, is due prior to move into the residence halls.

Reasons for a medical exemption that will be approved include:

- Documented history of severe allergic reaction to a component of each currently available COVID-19 vaccine.
- Documented history of severe or immediate-type hypersensitivity allergic reaction to a COVID-19 vaccine, and separate contraindication to other available formulations.
- Receiving immunosuppressive (weakens the immune system) treatment and advised by a medical provider to defer vaccination until a future date.

Examples of conditions that are NOT considered for a medical exemption include:

- History of COVID-19 infection or positive antibody screen is not considered a substitute for vaccination.
- History of severe allergic reactions to foods, latex, pets, insects, and environmental triggers.
- Fear of needles.
- History of vaccine side effects or general avoidance of vaccines.

Religious Exemptions from the Vaccine

Students who hold genuine and sincere religious beliefs that are contrary to COVID-19 vaccination may petition for exemption from the vaccination.

Residential students requesting consideration for a religious exemption from vaccination requirements must submit an initial application to start the review process in their Housing Self Service via Banner. Log into Banner, Select Student and Financial Aid, Select Housing and Dining and in the Applications Tab, select "COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption with Continued Residency."

Detailed information supporting the request for religious exemption must be submitted. A statement detailing the religious basis for your vaccination objection, explaining why you are requesting this religious exemption, the religious principle(s) that guide your objections to vaccination, and the religious basis that prohibits the COVID-19 vaccination must be sent to reslife@sunypoly.edu. Please send this from your SUNY Poly issued email account. You can also attach any other relevant documents or information to the email. A three person review panel representing Student Affairs will review and approve religious exemptions from the vaccine requirement.

Housing and Dining Cancellation Requests

If you will not meet the vaccination requirement for on-campus housing, you may request to cancel housing if you do so on or before August 13, 2021. (Students who petition for medical or religious exemption and who are denied such exemption may still request a housing cancellation within three business days of notification that their exemption has been denied.)



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Students who do not meet the August 13, 2021 deadline for cancellation will be subject to housing and dining charges for the fall 2021 semester but will only be permitted to occupy their residential space after they are vaccinated.

You may request to cancel housing and dining because you will not vaccinate, if you do so by the deadline. Log into your Housing and Dining Self Service in Banner and complete the 2021-2022 Housing and Dining Cancellation Request. Cancellation requests for the reason of not vaccinating prior to residential move in will not be accepted after August 13, 2021. Cancellation requests will be reviewed by a three-person panel from Student Affairs and Wellness.

If applicable, please begin to send your vaccine documentation or requests for cancellation or exemption as soon as possible, but no later than August 13, 2021. Students who do not submit vaccine documentation or who have not applied for and been approved for a vaccination exemption will not be permitted to move into the residence halls.

We appreciate the steps you are all taking to ensure we have a safe, healthy and engaging fall semester in our residences. Remaining returning room assignments, move in information and first year and transfer roommate and assignment information will all be sent by August 1, 2021. Thank you for all of the patience and support you have shown this summer as our team prepares for your return and our new fall initiatives!

Most sincerely,
Jennifer Adams
Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs