

Subject: You're now eligible for the vaccines. Here are the next steps.

April 7, 2021

Dear SUNY Poly Students,

As you know, New York State is currently working to distribute vaccines to all eligible New Yorkers, with many SUNY campuses serving as vaccine distribution sites, including SUNY Poly's Utica campus. With the recent expansion of criteria for appointment eligibility, this email is to remind you that **all New Yorkers age 16 and above are now eligible to receive the COVID-19 vaccines.**

We've been working closely with SUNY System Administration to secure doses reserved *specifically for residential college students*. These doses are now available, and we ask every student to [please fill out this survey](#), which will also allow us to contact you and reserve your spot to be vaccinated.

AFTER FILLING OUT THE SURVEY, IF THE WELLNESS CENTER CONTACTS YOU, PLEASE RESPOND IMMEDIATELY. THIS WILL ENSURE YOU AND OTHERS CHOOSING TO BE VACCINATED WILL BE ABLE TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT IN A TIMELY MANNER.

Because these are the one-time Johnson & Johnson vaccines, you will not need to schedule a second appointment.

Additionally, students at both the Albany and Utica campuses may also visit covid19vaccine.health.ny.gov at your earliest convenience to learn more and make an appointment at a state Point of Delivery (POD) site.

Utica students may also apply to the [standby list](#) for the New York State Department of Health's POD site located in the Wildcat Fieldhouse. Doing so could allow you to receive a vaccine if there are any doses that would otherwise be disposed of due to no shows, etc.

We strongly encourage all students to schedule your vaccine appointments before the semester ends to do your part to protect yourself, your family, and your communities, both here and at home. We know you want to open our campus and the community to the maximum extent possible and vaccinations will help us achieve that goal.

If you want to get more involved in this historic vaccination effort, please read below:



What comes after the vaccination?

Even after receiving the vaccine, it's critical that you continue to follow public health guidelines established by state and federal health authorities, as well as campus policies, including:

- Wearing a face covering
- Practicing social distancing
- Washing your hands often

The end of the pandemic may be in sight, but this is no time to let our guard down. Together, we can see this through to the end – so we can all get back to normal, safely.

What is SUNY doing to help the vaccination effort?

More than 35 SUNY campuses are serving as vaccination sites, with more than 900,000 doses administered so far at a rate of nearly 17,000 a day.

SUNY is also helping to combat misinformation about the vaccines with its [#KnowYourVax PSAs](#) featuring vaccine facts and information in 11 languages, delivered by SUNY's medical experts and trusted community voices.

How can I get involved?

You can play an important role in the vaccination effort by sharing trusted information and leading by example. Here are two ways to get involved:

1. Share SUNY's [#KnowYourVax videos or social graphics](#) with your social networks.
2. Share your reason for getting vaccinated in a short video or photo with the hashtag #ItsYourTurn, and tag @SUNY or your campus. *For example: "I'm getting vaccinated so I can travel again. Now it's your turn."*

Often, **the words of a friend or family member mean more** than the words of a medical expert. The small steps above could make a big difference in the vaccination effort.

Thank you for your ongoing diligence, patience, and hard work in continuing to pursue your academic goals over the past year.

Sincerely,

The Office of Student Affairs
SUNY Polytechnic Institute