

## Student Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination or Testing Procedure

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### 1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this Procedure is to establish the processes for the requirement that all students be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. This procedure is to be read in conjunction with the Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination or Testing Policy.

### 2.0 Scope

This Procedure applies to Griffith University students, both current and prospective, except for those enrolled on a program online or remotely and who agree not to attend campus.

For the purposes of this Procedure, “student” means a continuing student, or commencing student who has accepted an offer of enrolment.

### 3.0 Vaccination Requirements

In acknowledgement of the risks posed by COVID-19 to the health and safety of the Griffith University community and to the broader community, all existing and prospective students and individuals engaged by the University must comply with this Procedure as set out below.

All existing and prospective students who are, or will be, enrolled in Griffith University courses other than those on fully online programs, are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19, subject to certain limited exemptions as described in section 4 of the Procedure. Students who do not meet the vaccination requirements as outlined below without an approved exemption will not be able to attend campus and this may disrupt their study.

### 3.1 Fully vaccinated

The requirements and definition of being fully vaccinated will be updated from time to time and will be notified by the Vice Chancellor. When new vaccination requirements are notified, students will be expected to respond to the updated requirement before they commence their next trimester of study.

The dates by which students should be compliant are:

- Research students must provide evidence of full vaccination at least two weeks prior to their commencement or for continuing students by 18 February 2022
- Continuing undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students must provide evidence of full vaccination at least two weeks prior to the commencement of their next trimester of study in 2022.
- Commencing undergraduate and postgraduate coursework students must provide evidence of full vaccination by Friday 1pm prior to the start of orientation week of their first trimester of study in 2022.
- International students returning from overseas must provide evidence of full vaccination prior to entering Australia.

The requirements for providing evidence of vaccination are outlined in Section 3.3 of this Procedure.

In addition to the University requirement that students are fully vaccinated, a student whose study has COVID-19 vaccination requirements listed in a Public Health Order or any other workplace directive, must meet the conditions of that Order or Directive and provide the necessary documentation by the deadline notified by the University. Examples of programs impacted by such Directives include nursing, medicine and education.

### 3.2 Additional requirements for those working with vulnerable communities

The University recognises some students participate in university activities in vulnerable communities. Such communities include rural and remote and Indigenous and aged populations. Activities in vulnerable communities include research, education and extra-curricular, and those aimed to increase student participation. The University will expect organisers of such activities to demonstrate they have sought to minimise risk to the community. This includes, as appropriate, having an COVID Safe Plan approved by the ethics committee for research activity or Provost for activities related to education and participation. The University may deem, where risks cannot be appropriately mitigated, that unvaccinated individuals will not be able to physically participate in these activities.

### 3.3 Providing evidence of vaccination status, medical contraindication or temporary exemption

Students will provide evidence of their vaccination, recent infection or approved medical contraindication status by submitting their COVID-19 digital certificate, positive PCR or RAT notification or Immunisation History Statement issued by the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR). Where a student has been vaccinated overseas, they should add this to their AIR or if that is not available to them, they may submit their International COVID-19 Vaccination Certificate.

Wherever practical, the University will use automated systems to read and save relevant data. Vaccination certification for some healthcare programs is required to be held on record, where this is a requirement, the University will make it clear to those impacted. Where certification is not required to be held on record for program requirements, students' certificates and other health related information will be destroyed as soon as practically feasible. The confidential record retained will be the vaccine type

and date of last vaccine; date of prior infection, or date of approved medical contraindication. Certificates will not be subject to the University's backup procedures.

## 4.0 Exemptions

The University will only grant exemptions where a student has: a valid medical exemption in accordance with 4.1, a temporary exemption due to recent COVID-19 infection in accordance with 4.2, or agreed to participate in a regular testing regime in accordance with 4.3. Some students may be ineligible to be considered for exemptions. Such situations are typically students studying on programs impacted by a vaccination requirement in a Public Health Order or other Directive.

### 4.1 Seeking a medical exemption

Students seeking a medical exemption must submit an Immunisation History Statement issued by the Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) that records a valid immunisation medical exemption or, as a temporary measure until their AIR is updated, a valid and complete Australian Immunisation Register (AIR) immunisation medical exemption [form](#) (IM011).

Individuals with approved medical exemptions will be subject to a regular Rapid Antigen Test supplied and funded by the University. In addition, medically exempted individuals may be supported by additional safety measures that are required from time to time.

### 4.2 Seeking a temporary exemption due to recent COVID-19 infection

The University recognises those students who have recently been infected with COVID-19 may have had their vaccination schedule impacted. By providing evidence a PCR/RAT confirmed infection of COVID-19, students will be granted a temporary exemption of four weeks from the date of their Queensland Health PCR/RAT confirmation. After their temporary exemption period has concluded, students will be expected to resume their vaccination schedule. One week prior to the conclusion of their temporary exemption period, they must provide for review of the Provost, either their booking schedule to become fully vaccinated or details on how they intend to meet the Policy requirements.

Students who meet the conditions to be temporarily exempt, will not be required to participate in the Testing Regime during their 4-week exemption period. Students may be asked to conduct a testing regime after this period while fulfilling their requirement to be fully vaccinated.

Some students may be ineligible for temporary exemptions, such as those studying on programs covered by a vaccination requirement in a Public Health Order or Directive.

### 4.3 Participation in the Rapid Antigen Testing regime

Where a student is not fully vaccinated or decides not to apprise the University of their vaccination status, the University will allow the student to continue to study on campus on the basis that they agree to submit to regular Rapid Antigen Testing alongside any additional health measures that are required from time to time.

Students will be required to conduct Rapid Antigen Testing (RAT) on two days of the week when they are scheduled to attend campus and within 72 hours of their arrival. The Vice-Chancellor may increase the frequency of required testing from time to time if the level of risk as assessed by the University so warrants. The frequency of testing required for an individual will be reduced, where they are required to attend campus for fewer days than the current weekly testing frequency.

Students may be asked for evidence of compliance with this testing regime in a form determined by the Provost. Wherever practical, the University will use automated systems to confidentially record and track evidence of testing.

Unless they hold an approved medical exemption (IM011), a student who is not fully vaccinated or who decides not to apprise the University of their vaccination status will bear the cost of the Rapid Antigen Testing.

#### 4.4 Participation in fully online courses or cross institutional courses

The University recognises there may be cases in which a student may not have a medical exemption or be willing to be vaccinated or to undertake a testing regime. In such circumstances, students will be required to enrol only in courses that do not require participation on a Griffith' campus, or to suspend their enrolment until a time when this Policy and Procedure is no longer in force. Such students will not be eligible for exchange or study abroad opportunities.

## 5.0 Compliance

All students are required to comply with the Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination or Testing Policy and this Procedure.

### 5.1 Failure to Comply

Students will be excluded from campus unless they have complied with one of the regimes for maintaining a safe campus outlined in this Policy and Procedure.

Students who

- behave dishonestly with respect to any element of the regime in this procedure (eg through falsification of vaccination certificates or medical exemption or RAT results), or
- threaten, or act disrespectfully, to others due to their implementation of the requirements within this policy and procedure or ones defined in a Public Health Order or Directive.

will be dealt with in accordance with the student misconduct policy and procedure.

## 6.0 Definitions

**Campus** means any Griffith campus, site or facilities.

**COVID-19 vaccines** mean a vaccine approved or recognised by the Therapeutic Goods Administration (TGA) for use in Australia or for travel.

**COVID-19 testing** means a test accepted by the TGA and approved for use by the Vice Chancellor.

**Fully vaccinated:** The requirements for being fully vaccinated will be determined and publicised by the Vice Chancellor. As at 18 February 2022 it means two doses of a TGA approved or recognised COVID-19 vaccine.

**Evidence of vaccination** means a copy of the student's immunisation history statement from the Australian Immunisation Register, the COVID-19 digital certificate or a certificate that meets the criteria as required by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

## INFORMATION

Printable version (PDF) Downloadable version (Word)

Title	Student Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination or Testing Procedure
Document number	2022/0001201
Purpose	The purpose of this Procedure is to establish the processes for the requirement that all students be vaccinated against COVID-19. This procedure is to be read in conjunction with the COVID-19 Mandatory Vaccination Policy.
Audience	Students
Category	Operational
Subcategory	Safety
Approval date	25 January 2022
Effective date	25 January 2022
Review date	2024
Policy advisor	Provost
Approving authority	Vice Chancellor

## RELATED POLICY DOCUMENTS AND SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Legislation	<a href="#">Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld)</a> <a href="#">Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011 (Qld)</a> <a href="#">Codes of Practice</a> <a href="#">Fair Work Act 2009 (Qld)</a> <a href="#">Queensland Government Public Health Orders</a>
Policy	<a href="#">Mandatory COVID-19 Vaccination or Testing Policy</a> <a href="#">Health, Safety and Wellbeing Policy</a> <a href="#">Code of Conduct</a> <a href="#">Enterprise Agreements</a> <a href="#">Work Location Policy</a>
Procedures	N/A
Local protocols	N/A
Forms	COVID-19 Vaccine Medical Contraindication Form