



DARE TO DO MORE

Dear LaGuardia faculty and staff,

Because of concerns over the Delta variant and the recent increase in Covid cases we are doubling down on our efforts to ensure a safe and healthy return to campus. Here's the latest.

Confirm Your Vaccination Status ASAP: Having your vaccination verification in CUNYfirst is the easiest way to get on campus. For most of us it is the only way. If you haven't already uploaded your vaccination verification documents, don't delay. Staff returning the week of August 16 must upload vaccination verification documents by this Friday, August 6.

For anyone returning to campus after August 16, the deadline for uploading vaccination information is ten days before the first week you are coming back. For example, for those returning to campus the week of September 6, the deadline is August 26. The 10-day advanced verification is to provide time for CUNY to cross-check and re-confirm your claim of vaccination status as well as resolve out-of-state vaccination confirmations – extra steps essential to prevent false claims of vaccination status.

The requirement to have proof of being vaccinated in CUNYfirst applies to everyone, including individuals with remote work arrangements who don't come to campus every day. Put another way, even if you are only going to work one day a week on campus you must still have your vaccination confirmation in CUNYfirst. Use this [link](#) to learn how to upload your documents to your CUNYfirst account. If you have difficulty uploading your documents please try a different browser; some people have reported problems in their first attempt to upload documents.

The CUNY Central Office and our IT Departments are working on procedures for the verification of vaccination for individuals who are not in CUNYfirst—e.g. ACE students, Research Foundation employees, visitors to campus, et al. More on this soon.

If you are a student or are in touch with students that will be coming to campus for fully in person or hybrid classes remember that LaGuardia students must be fully vaccinated to come on campus and enter a classroom. Deadlines for getting a vaccine that requires two shots in time for the Fall semester are fast approaching. For those dates and more info see: [#VaxUpCUNY](#)

Opening of Student-Facing Offices: While LaGuardia staff will be returning to campus on August 16, we are pushing back the restoration of student-facing services for a week. LaGuardia students that are fully vaccinated will be able to visit student-facing offices (e.g. advising, registrar, bursar, financial aid, academic departments, etc.) beginning August 23. This extra time will allow you to settle into your offices while we confirm that our systems for safe entry and vaccination enforcement are fully operational.



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Student Vaccination Policies: The Chancellor’s recent [letter](#) to students extended their time to show proof of vaccination. With [news reports](#) indicating formal FDA approval of a Covid vaccine by early September, all LaGuardia students taking in-person or hybrid classes will be required to be fully vaccinated. In the rarest of circumstances, students may be granted a religious or medical exemption from being vaccinated. That might allow them on campus provided they produce a negative Covid test result from the last seven days. Still, my preference is to not allow students with vaccination exemptions to enter LaGuardia classrooms. I am awaiting legal guidance on this position. I recognize that there is an argument to be made for the student that has a medical reason for not being vaccinated and must take a class in order to complete degree requirements that is only offered in person. (Consider some of our Health Sciences majors.) More on this issue in next week’s Update. Note that despite our enrollment crisis if a LaGuardia student doesn’t want to get vaccinated (and does not qualify for an exemption) and insists on attending in person classes I will encourage him/her/they to transfer to another college. Enough said.

COVID-19 Testing at LaGuardia: CUNY has designated LaGuardia as a Covid-19 Testing Site. We will use room E-242 as it meets the requirements established by the University. The site will serve students, faculty and staff from LaGuardia and other CUNY campuses. The testing vendor, Applied DNA Clinical Labs, will give a PCR test for Covid-19. The room is being readied to allow safe entry and exit. It will be operational by August 16.

“Above and Beyond” Recognition: Our [Public Safety](#) team, led by Lt. Yvonne Gaul, has been on campus throughout the pandemic. They’ve controlled building access and egress, monitored our facilities, and assisted, in a friendly and efficient manner, the considerable number of students, faculty, and staff who have been coming to campus. On behalf of all of us, thank you!

Best wishes,

Kenneth Adams
President