

## HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

### AP 5210 Communicable Diseases – Students

**References:** Education Code sections 76403

#### COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate

The Hartnell Community College District (District) is committed to safeguarding the health and well-being of our students, employees, and the communities we serve. In furtherance of this commitment, the District embraces the United States' comprehensive COVID-19 vaccination strategy designed to mitigate the risks surrounding exposure to COVID-19 and reduce the likelihood of transmission of the COVID-19 virus.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends that all people 12 years and older be vaccinated against COVID-19. COVID-19 vaccines currently authorized in the United States have been shown to be effective against SARS-CoV-2 infections and resulting illness. Data suggest the U.S. COVID-19 vaccination program may substantially reduce the burden of disease in the United States by preventing serious illness in fully vaccinated people and interrupting chains of transmission.<sup>1</sup>

#### Overview

In light of the evidence established to date regarding the effectiveness and safety of available COVID-19 vaccines,<sup>2</sup> this Administrative Procedure establishes steps to ensure that all students enrolled in District classes for the Spring 2022 Semester, and beyond, as deemed necessary by the District, are fully vaccinated against COVID-19, subject to the terms and exemptions described below. "Fully vaccinated" means that a minimum of two weeks has passed following the second dose in a 2-dose series (e.g., Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or at least two weeks has passed following a single-dose vaccine (e.g., Johnson and Johnson). The District may require students to receive a booster shot(s) on a timely basis to ensure continued vaccine efficacy.

These procedures supplement and do not replace existing policies and procedures pertaining to COVID-19. All students must continue to abide by all District policies, procedures, and protocols regarding COVID-19. All students, regardless of vaccination status, must also comply with all federal, state, and local public health and safety orders and guidance regarding COVID-19.

Students who do not follow these procedures may be dropped from their courses until proof of vaccination is submitted. Students who falsify vaccination records, testing results, or pertinent

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/science/science-briefs/fully-vaccinated-people.html>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/safety/safety-of-vaccines.html>

information will be referred to the Director of Student Affairs (Student Life) for the student conduct process.

### **Proof of Vaccination**

Every student subject to these vaccination requirements must provide documentation verifying that the student is fully before enrolling. At the District's discretion, these documentation requirements may be applied to future semesters.

The District will accept the following forms of documentation:

1. COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card (issued by the Department of Health and Human Services Centers for Disease Control & Prevention or WHO Yellow Card) which includes name of person vaccinated, type of vaccine provided and date last dose administered);
2. A photo of a Vaccination Record Card, including an image stored on a phone or electronic device;
3. Documentation of COVID-19 vaccination from a health care provider; or
4. Digital record that includes a QR code that when scanned by a SMART Health Card reader displays to the reader client name, date of birth, vaccine dates and vaccine type.

In the absence of knowledge to the contrary, the District may accept the documentation presented as valid.

### **Exemptions**

A student may be exempt from the COVID-19 vaccine requirement upon District approval as described below:

**Medical Exemption:** A student may be exempt for medical reasons. The individual claiming a medical exemption must submit a written statement from a licensed physician exempting them due to a medical exemption. This statement must be submitted on the doctor's office letterhead with the doctor's printed name, license number, signature, and the date the statement is issued.

**Religious Exemption:** A student may complete and submit a request to be exempt on the basis of a sincerely held religious belief, observance, or practice, subject to review by the District.

**Dual Enrollment Students (College to Career Access Pathways):** The District shall coordinate with the K-12 school districts it serves and their respective county offices of education regarding applicability of the provisions of the COVID-19 vaccination interim policy and this administrative procedure.

**Incarcerated Students:** Incarcerated students enrolled in District classes are excluded from the District's vaccination mandate during their period of incarceration, although they may be subject to other vaccination requirements outside the District's control.

Students exempted from vaccination must comply with applicable public health and safety measures, as determined by the District, including, but not limited to, repeated COVID-19 testing on a District-determined schedule, face coverings, and physical distancing, to reduce the likelihood of transmission to the District community.

### **Health and Medical Records**

The District will not request any health or medical information for the purpose of enforcement of these procedures other than proof of vaccination. Unless consent is given, the District will not receive any medical information from students or give any medical information to any vaccination provider. Any proof of vaccination a student provides to the District will be stored in a manner consistent with applicable law and in accordance with the District's practice for storing medical information for students.

Approved by the Superintendent/President: November 2, 2021; Rev: February 1, 2022

See Board Policy 5210