Introduction

The MiraCosta Community College District is committed to providing a safe and healthy environment.

MiraCosta College will cooperate with local health officials by taking any measures necessary for the prevention and control of communicable diseases in students.

MiraCosta College will comply with any immunization program recommended or required by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH).

The Student Health Services medical team shall function as a liaison to the appropriate local public health authority when communicable disease issues involve the campus, including the reporting of communicable diseases and safety measures taken to appropriate district departments.

Additionally, pursuant to Board Policy 5210, in furtherance of this commitment, the MiraCosta Community College District adopts the following procedures to mitigate the risks surrounding exposure to COVID-19 by requiring that all students and employees who are on district premises have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

Scope of Coverage

Effective August 23, 2021, all students must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to be physically present on district premises for an extended time (indoors for 15 minutes or greater) unless they receive an approved medical or religious exemption. Individuals are considered fully vaccinated against COVID-19 two weeks or more after they have received the second dose in a two-dose series (e.g. Pfizer-BioNTech or Moderna), or two weeks or more after they have received a single-dose vaccine (e.g., Johnson and Johnson [J&J/Janssen]). Students who do not follow these procedures will be dropped from their on-campus courses and will be unable to register for on-campus courses until proof of vaccination is submitted. Students who falsify information will be referred to the Office of Student Affairs for the student conduct process.
This administrative procedure requires that all students who are on district premises for any face-to-face instructional and student support activities (e.g., office hours, classes, library, tutoring, etc.) have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19. The district will accept any COVID-19 vaccine that has been FDA Emergency Use Authorized (EUA) and/or has been approved by the World Health Organization (WHO).

Effective Dates

These procedures shall be effective immediately and shall remain in effect until the MiraCosta Community College District determines that these procedures are no longer necessary. These procedures may be amended or revoked at any time.

Proof of Vaccination

Once fully vaccinated against COVID-19, students must provide to the district proof of vaccination and a signed Confidentiality of Medical Information Act release in order to be physically present on campus for an extended time (indoors for 15 minutes or greater). The form is available from Student Services.

The district will accept either: 1) a Vaccination Card, or 2) another form of documentation from the vaccine provider. Students must upload these records into SURF to be cleared to come to campus.

Students who have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 are required to continue to abide by all district policies, procedures, and protocols regarding COVID-19 until the district directs otherwise. The district’s COVID-19 Prevention Plan is available from the risk and safety manager.

Health or Medical Records

The district will not request any health or medical information for the purpose of enforcement of this Policy 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 vaccine provider. The district may receive disability and functional limitation information from a medical provider. Any proof of vaccination a student provides to the district will be stored in a manner consistent with applicable law and the district’s practice for storing confidential information for students.

Exemptions from Vaccination Requirement

A. Medical Exemption: Students requesting an exemption for medical reasons will be required to submit a statement from a licensed medical provider explaining the medical contraindication and the time period for which the exemption is being requested. This exemption must be submitted on the provider’s letterhead with the provider’s printed name, license number, signature, and date the statement was issued. Students requesting a medical exemption must submit a Committee on Exceptions (COE) petition and attach the appropriate documentation from the licensed medical provider.

B. Religious Exemption: If a student objects on the basis of a sincerely held religious belief, the student must complete and submit the Religious Accommodation Request Form for COVID-19 Vaccination. The form is available from Student Services.
Students requesting a religious exemption must submit a COE petition and attach the Religious Accommodation Request Form.

**Accommodations Process**

The district will attempt to reasonably accommodate students by offering online learning and services to the extent practical. Under special circumstances, given the exemptions described above, other accommodations may be considered, which may include, but is not limited to, COVID-19 testing and other appropriate accommodations.

Accommodations may not be possible where it would result in an undue burden to the district or result in a fundamental alteration of any course or service. The district does not have an obligation to accommodate philosophical or political objections.