

COVID-19 FAQs for Students

The Ohlone College Board of Trustees implemented [BP 3507](#) and corresponding [AP 3507](#) which mandates that all students and employees accessing Ohlone’s in-person programs and services will be fully vaccinated effective September 30, 2021.

The following Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) are intended to provide guidance for students to determine whether they satisfy the requirements of fully-vaccinated status, how to report their status to the College, and provide general directions for accessing the campus.

For more information or clarifications about these questions, please contact the Admissions and Records Office at 510-659-6100 or via email at admissions@ohlone.edu

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Part I. Ohlone College's Protocol for COVID-19 Vaccinations

The following information provides guidance to students about how to report their COVID-19 vaccination status, attending in-person classes on campus, and how to request extensions or exemptions.

A. Providing Ohlone with proof of vaccination

Instructions for providing proof of vaccination are available at <https://www.ohlone.edu/student-services/covid-19-protocol-students>.

1. Verification is a two-step process. You will receive an email at each point.
 1. Your documentation is reviewed by Ohlone staff. You will receive an email confirmation.
 2. Your status is updated in your student record within 24 hours*. You will receive an email confirmation.

*Please note, student record updates are processed during regular business hours. Documentation reviewed on Friday, Saturday, or Sunday will not be processed until Monday.

B. Students enrolled in In-Person Classes

1. Is the COVID-19 vaccine protocol required for all Ohlone students? What if I am just taking online classes?

The COVID-19 protocol for full vaccination applies to students wishing to come on campus for any in-person activities including but not limited to classes, events, services, etc.

Students do not have to be fully vaccinated to take online classes and access online events and services.

2. Do students have to wear a face covering while on campus even if they're vaccinated?

At this time, everyone must wear a mask indoors regardless of their vaccination status. Wearing a mask outdoors is optional but recommended.

3. Do I still have to complete the Daily Symptom survey even if I am vaccinated?

Yes, this is to ensure that our students, staff, and faculties who come to campus are safe.

4. Will COVID testing be required for students even if vaccinated?

COVID-19 testing may be required for fully vaccinated students in certain situations. We are still developing our testing strategy, depending on how the Delta variant progresses.



C. Fully Vaccinated Status

5. I am already fully vaccinated. How do I report my vaccine status?

Follow the process for vaccination described in Part I.A.

6. Where can I get a COVID vaccine?

Safe, free, effective COVID-19 vaccines are available to everyone age 12 and up—regardless of immigration or insurance status. To find a location near you, please visit <https://myturn.ca.gov/>. To view the schedule of on-campus COVID-19 vaccine clinics, please visit <https://www.ohlone.edu/return-to-campus>.

7. What is considered as being fully vaccinated?

According to CDC, ages 5+ are approved to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. People are considered fully vaccinated: 2 weeks after their second dose in a 2-dose series, such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines, or 2 weeks after a single-dose vaccine, such as Johnson & Johnson’s Janssen vaccine.

THE STEPS FOR BEING CONSIDERED FULLY VACCINATED AT OHLONE (fig 1)

Steps to complete fully vaccinated status
STEP 1 – Get the 1 st dose of vaccine
STEP 2 – Get the 2 nd dose of vaccine (if required)
STEP 3 – Fully vaccinated status achieved 2 weeks after the date of the final dose.
STEP 4 – Submit vaccine card online at this link.

The CDC Schedule for COVID-19 Vaccination
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Moderna – 2 shots, 28 days apart• Pfizer – 2 shots, 21 days apart• Johnson & Johnson – 1 shot

8. Will I be required to get a booster?

At this time, no booster shots are required, but this may change in the future.

9. What if I am in the process of getting my 2nd dose but won’t be able to meet the deadline to register for in-person classes?

BP 3507 mandates that all students who come to campus must be fully vaccinated. Until your student record indicates you are fully vaccinated, you will be limited to registering for online classes only.



D. Exemptions

10. How do I request a medical exemption from taking the COVID-19 vaccine?

Students can request a medical exemption for COVID-19 vaccines. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis as described by AP 3507 and the COVID-19 Vaccination Mandate Implementation Process for Students, and you will be notified by email of the decision. Please complete the appropriate form which can be access on the Student Services [Policies, Procedures, and Forms webpage](#).

11. Students with Religious Objection to the COVID-19 Vaccination

If your religious beliefs prohibit you from being vaccinated against the COVID1-9 vaccination, you can still attend Ohlone College by taking on-line classes. Ohlone wants to support the education of students who are not vaccinated against COVID-19. To better protect your health and safety -- and the health and safety of others -- due to the serious health risk that the COVID-19 virus poses, Ohlone is offering students who are not vaccinated the option of enrolling in on-line courses. On-line courses allow you the opportunity to attend classes from the comfort of your home to better protect your health and safety. Ohlone offers a full array of courses on-line at [My Ohlone](#). If you have a Student ID, you may schedule an appointment with a counselor at [the Counseling Department](#) to discuss classes. Your meeting with your counselor can also occur on-line. Your counselor will assist you in determining the appropriate classes as you pursue your higher education. If you have questions, please contact the Vice President’s office at 510-659-6262.

Submission of Exemption Requests (*fig 2*)

Exemption Request	Submit to	Reviewed by
Medical Exemptions	studentservcies@ohlone.edu	Director of Student Health Director of Student Accessibility Services
Appeals	studentservices@ohlone.edu	Vice President of Student Services

12. My exemption request was denied. Can I appeal this decision?

If an exemption request is denied, students may appeal to the Vice President of Student Services by filling out the [Exemption Appeal Request Form](#) and submitting it to studentservices@ohlone.edu

The Vice President of Student Services will review the case and make a determination. Students will be sent a letter informing them of the decision. All decisions of the Vice President of Student Services are final.



13. How will my approved accommodations and/or additional safety measures be implemented?

Student Services counseling faculty, department staff, the Dean of Counseling and the Vice President of Student Services will be available to support you in the implementation of accommodations and/or safety measures approved by the exemption panel.

14. What if I decide to get vaccinated?

If your vaccination status changes to fully vaccinated, your exemptions accommodations can be removed for future semesters. If you have accommodations in place this semester, you will need to reach out to your instructors to see if reversing accommodations is possible.

E. International and Out-of-State Students and Local Students Who Travel

International Students should contact the International Programs & Services Office for questions at kradke@ohlone.edu.

15. Do vaccines from other countries meet the requirement? What if I only received one out of two doses in my country?

According to the CDC, those who have received **all** recommended doses of an FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine, do not need additional doses.

If you received a non FDA-authorized vaccine:

- If vaccine is listed for emergency use by the World Health Organization (WHO) and received all recommended doses, you do not need any additional doses with an FDA-authorized vaccine.
- If vaccine listed for emergency use by WHO, but has not received all recommended doses, you will need a complete FDA-authorized series.
- If vaccine is not listed for emergency use by WHO, you will need a complete FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine series.

The minimum interval between the last dose of a non-FDA authorized vaccine or a WHO-listed vaccine and an FDA-authorized COVID-19 vaccine is 28 days. Only people who have received all recommended doses of an FDA-authorized or WHO-listed COVID-19 vaccine are considered fully vaccinated.

FDA-authorized

- Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines (e.g., COMIRNATY, Tozinameran)

As of November 3, 2021, [WHO](#) has listed the following COVID-19 vaccines for emergency use:

- AstraZeneca-Oxford COVID-19 vaccines (e.g., Covishield, Vaxzevria)
- COVAXIN
- Janssen (Johnson & Johnson) COVID-19 vaccine
- Moderna COVID-19 vaccine
- Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine (BBIBP-CorV)



- Sinovac-CoronaVac COVID-19 vaccine

16. If I am traveling from another country, will I have to self-quarantine before I can start attending in-person classes or participating in campus activities? If so, for how long?

If you are fully vaccinated, [CDC](#) recommends that for international travel, you get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel. Continue to self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms.

If you are not fully vaccinated, CDC recommends that for international travel, you get tested with a viral test 3-5 days after travel AND stay home and self-quarantine for a full 7 days after travel. Even if you test negative, stay home and self-quarantine for the full 7 days. If your test is positive, isolate yourself to protect others from getting infected. If you don't get tested, stay home and self-quarantine for 10 days after travel.

Part II. Ohlone's Protocol for Students on Campus

The following information provides guidance to students about how to access campus and what to do if they are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms.

A. Coming to Campus

1. When I get to campus, where do I check-in?

[Information about Ohlone's Health Screening Check-in locations can be found here.](#)

Beginning October 1, 2021, students who have not uploaded evidence of their first COVID-19 vaccine maybe excluded from entering campus and attending in-person classes.

2. Do I have to wear a mask in the cafeteria?

The cafeteria is currently closed for renovations, and there is no eating indoors. There are tables and umbrellas placed around the campus for you to use. Please bring food and drinks with you.

When eating in groups, please remember to follow social distancing guidelines.

B. Keeping Classrooms Clean

3. Wear a mask whenever you are inside a building, classroom, restroom, etc.



4. **Ohlone has provided cleaning supplies to keep workspaces clean. If supplies are missing or run low, please inform you instructor or a staff member.**
5. **When you are finished using a workspace, please use the cleaning supplies to wipe down any surfaces that you have touched.**

C. Students Experiencing Symptoms

ALL Ohlone students and personnel will have a mandatory 10-day quarantine away from campus for positive COVID tests, experiencing COVID-symptoms, COVID exposures, regardless of vaccination status.

6. What happens if I'm diagnosed with COVID-19?

Before contacting your instructor, you must fill out the Contact Tracing Team's COVID-19 Case Reporting [Form](#) and a Case Investigator/Contact Tracer will contact the student as soon as possible.

After submitting your report to the Contact Tracing Team, students should reach out to the instructor(s) to inform their instructor(s) that they will not be able to attend class for a certain amount of days. The instructor will then work with the student about accommodations.

7. What do I do if I feel sick?

Click here to see a list of COVID-19 symptoms provided by the Ohlone Student Health Center. (Link will be live by Tuesday, September 7.)

The first day at home

If you feel sick, stay home and submit the daily symptom survey screening form online.

The first day on campus

If you feel sick while on campus, leave campus immediately, go home, and seek medical attention.

The next day

If you are scheduled to come on campus the next day but still feel sick, stay home and inform your instructor.

8. I am not sick anymore, how do I get approval to come back to campus?

In order to come back to campus, get medical clearance from your provider OR show proof of negative COVID test. If you can't have a negative COVID test, according to CDC as of 11/16/2021, you can be around others after:

- 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND



- 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications AND
- Other symptoms of COVID-19 are improving*

*Loss of taste and smell may persist for weeks or months after recovery and need not delay the end of isolation.

9. My symptoms/illness are not COVID-19 related what should I do?

This protocol does not apply to non-COVID-19 related illnesses/symptoms. If you need to be absent for another medical reason, you need to discuss this with your instructor.

Updated December 13, 2021



Forms and Resources

This page contains links to the forms and resources referenced in this document.

STUDENT FORMS

Exemption forms and the appeal form can be accessed online on the [Student Services Policies, Procedures, and Forms webpage](#).

- Ohlone College COVID-19 Vaccine Medical/Disability Exemption Request Form
- Ohlone College Students COVID-19 Vaccine Exemption Appeal Form

OHLONE COLLEGE RESOURCES FOR COVID-19 INFORMATION

These resources provide additional information regarding Ohlone College's management of COVID-19.

Information

Frequently Asked Questions for Students: www.ohlone.edu/student-services

Return to Campus - Students: <https://www.ohlone.edu/rtc/students>

Protocol

COVID-19 Protocol for Students - <https://www.ohlone.edu/student-services/covid-19-protocol-students>

Policies

Board Policy 3507

https://www.ohlone.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Board_of_Trustees/Policies/bp_3507_final_09-08-21.pdf

Administrative Procedure 3507

https://www.ohlone.edu/sites/default/files/groups/Board_of_Trustees/Policies/ap_3507_covid_procedures_final_09-2021.pdf

