

## COVID-19 FAQs FOR STUDENTS

Dear Ohlone College Students,

I hope you had a wonderful summer, and on behalf of the administration, faculty, and staff, welcome to the fall semester. As you know, school starts Monday, August 30<sup>th</sup>, and since you have registered to take classes on the Fremont Ohlone Campus and/or the Newark Center, we would like to provide you with some guidance that will assist you with the COVID protocols in place and the process on how to enter the campus to safely attend your classes.

We know the pandemic has been a challenging time for everyone, and we want to do all we can to support your Ohlone College experience. With that in mind, we are taking precautions to keep you safe while following the guidance of Alameda County Public Health Department and the CDC.

Your safety is our highest priority, so below you will find our COVID procedures and FAQ's. This information will assist you with understanding Ohlone College COVID guidelines, safety protocol, and how to navigate the process to have a successful Fall 2021 semester.

In the information below, you will also find the process to upload your vaccination documentation. Please complete this before September 30, 2021.

If you are not vaccinated, you can still attend in-person classes, but must complete your vaccination process by September 30, 2021 in order to continue to attending classes in-person.

We're looking forward to you taking in-person classes, but know that you may have many questions regarding the COVID protocol and how to navigate the campus. We have planned a Zoom workshop to answer questions on Thursday, September 9, 2021 at 12:00 PM. More information will be announced soon.

If you have additional questions about campus services, please access the Ohlone website at [www.ohlone.edu/student-services](http://www.ohlone.edu/student-services).

I want to thank you in advance for your patience and attention to helping us keep our campus safe for everyone. We will continue to keep you informed of any updates and changes in the process as we move forward through the fall semester.

Welcome back and we wish you much success this semester!

Sincerely,

Milton Lang, Ed.D.  
Vice President for Student Services  
Ohlone College



*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 Office of the Vice President of Student Services at 510-659-6262 or email [studentservices@ohlone.edu](mailto:studentservices@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

Providing proof of vaccination is a two-step process beginning August 26, 2021.

1. Submit your liability release waiver [at this link](#).
2. You will be provided a link to upload your documents.

Ohlone will send a confirmation when your status has been verified.

### 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 in-person instruction.

Fully-online students: the vaccine protocol does not apply to students just taking online classes.

#### **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.

#### **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 two-step 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, 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

Steps to complete fully vaccinated status
STEP 1 – Get the 1 <sup>st</sup> dose of vaccine
STEP 2 – Get the 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose of vaccine (if required)
STEP 3 – Fully vaccinated status achieved
STEP 4 – <a href="#">Submit vaccine card online at this link.</a>

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

#### 8. What if I am in the process of getting my 2<sup>nd</sup> dose but won’t be able to meet the September 30, 2021 deadline?

Requests for an extension on the deadline to get your second shot will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

In order to request the extension, you must be able to show proof of your 1<sup>st</sup> dose vaccine record and your appointment date for your 2<sup>nd</sup> dose.

Submit documentation [via this link](#). You will be contacted to confirm your status.

#### 9. How do I request an exemption from taking the COVID-19 vaccine?

Students can request a medical and/or religious exemption for COVID-19 vaccines. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis, 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](#).



**SUBMISSION OF EXEMPTION REQUESTS (fig 2)**

Exemption Request	Submit to	Reviewed by
Medical Exemptions	<b>Director of Student Health</b>	Director of Student Health Vice President of Student Services
Religious Exemptions	Vice President of Student Services	Vice President of Student Services
Appeals	studentservices@ohlone.edu	Superintendent/President

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

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

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

**D. 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](mailto:kradke@ohlone.edu).*

**11. 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 August 6, 2021, WHO has listed the following COVID-19 vaccines for emergency use:

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

**12. 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.

**13. If I am traveling from another state, 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 domestic travel, you will self-monitor for COVID-19 symptoms; isolate and get tested if you develop symptoms. You do NOT need to get tested or self-quarantine if you are fully vaccinated or have recovered from COVID-19 in the past 3 months.

If you are not fully vaccinated, CDC recommends that 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 August 30, 2021, all students attending in-person classes, regardless of vaccination status are required to check-in and complete the Health Screening questionnaire.

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 students taking in-person classes have to be tested every week?**

At this time no. However, testing is an option which we are considering in conjunction with our vaccination protocol. We will inform you should this become a necessary step in addressing the current Delta variant.

#### 3. **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

#### 4. **Wear a mask whenever you are inside a building, classroom, restroom, etc.**

#### 5. **Ohlone has provided cleaning supplies to keep workspaces clean. If supplies are missing or run low, please inform you instructor or a staff member.**

#### 6. **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.**

#### **7. 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.

#### **8. 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.

#### **9. 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, 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.

**10. 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 September 3, 2021: [I,C.7](#); [II,C.7](#); [II,C.8](#); [II,C.10](#)*



## Appendix: 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 Religious Exemption Request Form
- Ohlone College Students COVID-19 Vaccine Religious Exemption Appeal Form

