

June 23, 2021

Dear students,

I hope you are well and having an enjoyable and productive summer. While the start of the fall semester seems far away, here on campus we are planning and preparing to welcome you in August. This message is intended to provide you with some COVID-related information for the semester ahead.

Our goal and intention for Fall 2021 is to every extent possible, return to the kind of campus experience that DelVal does best: an in-person and experiential academic environment, complemented by out-of-class experiences that engage and involve you through athletics and sport, clubs, activities and events. We want you to be able to spend time with your friends and do the things you enjoy without the essential precautions that precluded most of these activities throughout the last academic year.

We have been evaluating the guidance from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, the CDC, the Bucks County Department of Health, the American College Health Association, World Health Organization, and the NCAA Sports Science Institute to determine the efforts we will take this fall to protect the health of our campus community and to provide as ‘normal’ a semester as we possibly can.

After much review and discussion, we have determined that in order to operate as we all wish, it will be important that we reach the highest possible level of vaccinations within the DelVal community. A high vaccination rate will be the key to loosening restrictions on campus just as we have seen vaccination efforts making an impact in our home communities and across the country.

Therefore, the expectation of the University is that all students who are able will be fully vaccinated prior to returning for the fall semester.

This requirement will allow for the following exemptions: (1) medical or disability related reason, (2) sincerely held religious belief, or (3) strong moral or ethical conviction.

While these exemptions may be requested, please note that exemption from vaccinations will not exempt individuals from certain health and safety protocols and mitigation activities related to COVID-19, that will be required in lieu of vaccination, including but not limited to those described below.

	Vaccinated	Not Vaccinated
Wear mask indoors (at all times)	NO	YES
Wear mask outdoors	NO	NO
Participate in random COVID-19 testing	NO	YES
Quarantine at home if exposed to COVID	NO	YES
Expanded access to campus facilities (for example, fitness/weight rooms)	YES	NO

As the summer progresses, we anticipate additional guidelines will be developed for event, activity and facility use that will clarify opportunities and expectations for vaccinated and non-vaccinated students.

If you are not yet fully vaccinated, we will be providing resources to help you accomplish this in time for your return in the fall:

- A vaccine information session will be held via zoom on June 30th at 12:00 noon, led by Meredyth VanVreede, our director of student health services. Details on how to join will be forthcoming and it will be recorded for those who cannot join.
- Free Johnson & Johnson vaccine clinics will be held on campus in July.
- If you do not live near campus and are having difficulty finding the vaccine in your community, you may reach out to student health at healthcenter@delval.edu for assistance.

Dr. Vari will be communicating with you in the very near future with details for the Zoom information session, vaccination clinics, the exemption request form and how to access it, and instructions for uploading your vaccination card.

As I stated at the outset of this message, reaching the highest possible level of vaccinations within the DelVal community will be the key to the kind of campus experience that I know you all want. Together, I know we can do this. The best way to support your Aggie community now is to get vaccinated.

Below is link to a message from a member of our internal community talking about why she got vaccinated:

[Dr. Melissa Langston's Message](#)

If you have any questions about what I've communicated, please [click here](#) to submit them. We will be adding an FAQ on the COVID-19 page once we see the nature of your questions.

Stay safe this summer and I look forward to seeing you all on campus this fall!

Dr. Ben Rusiloski
Interim President