

Updated 3/11/22

## FAQs

### COVID-19 Requirements for Rutgers University Affiliates

#### **INTRODUCTION**

These FAQs provide answers to questions that are associated with University Policy 60.1.36, Immunization Policy for University Affiliates.

#### **SUMMARY**

Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Rutgers University has taken significant steps to protect the health and safety of the University community. As the University continues to increase its on-campus population and carefully open its doors to events and programs, the University will continue to take a firm stance in the fight against widespread infection. To that end, affiliated individuals who have a non-employee and non-student relationship with the University and Program Participants will be required to meet certain requirements in order to participate on-campus activities. Affiliated individuals who have a non-employee and non-student relationship with the University, including but not limited to Volunteers, Non-Healthcare Contractors, Healthcare Contractors, Guest Lecturers, Event Attendees, and summer Camp and other Program Participants, will be required to adhere to the University's health and safety guidelines.

#### **FAQs**

**Q: Do campus visitors have to be vaccinated against COVID-19?**

A: Non-Healthcare Contractors, Event Attendees, Camp Attendees, Guest Lecturers, Program Organizers, Program Participants, and Volunteers are required to have completed a primary series of an FDA-authorized or FDA-approved COVID-19 vaccine as [recommended by the CDC](#) or provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR or antigen laboratory-processed test within 72 hours of the Event start.

Healthcare Contractors are required to have completed a primary series of any COVID-19 vaccine authorized or approved for use by the FDA and receipt of a booster dose (if eligible), as recommended by the CDC. Healthcare Contractors do not have the option to provide proof of a negative COVID-19 PCR or lab-processed antigen test, unless they have a religious or medical exemption.

Casual Visitors and Guests (individuals attending a business meeting, social interaction, medical appointment, or other short-term and transient visit) are not required to show proof of vaccination.

**Q: What if a Healthcare Contractor, Non-Healthcare Contractor, Event Attendee, Camp Attendee, Guest Lecturer, Program Organizer, Program Participant, or Volunteer does not have proof of vaccination or a negative test?**

A: The individual cannot attend or participate in the activity and must leave campus. Any individual who fails to abide by the requirements will be considered non-compliant and may be subject to removal from campus.

**Q: What about international visitors who have received a WHO-approved**

A: **vaccination?** International visitors who cannot receive a [U.S. FDA-approved or FDA-authorized vaccine](#), and who have been vaccinated in their home country, may provide proof of

vaccination by a [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) authorized vaccine (e.g., AstraZeneca, SinoPharm BIBP).

**Q: What about overnight Camps in which participants stay in Rutgers housing?**

A: COVID-19 Immunization is mandatory for all individuals staying overnight in University housing. There is no option for proof of a negative test in lieu of proof of vaccination for those who wish to stay in University housing.

**Q: Do campus visitors have to follow the same non-vaccination safety rules as Rutgers employees and students?**

A: Yes. All visitors must comply with any Rutgers' COVID-related safety rules in effect at the time. Information on current guidelines may be found at <https://coronavirus.rutgers.edu>, or as shared by Program Coordinators, or posted on or in campus locations.

**Q: What if a visitor arrives for the Event and appears to be sick?**

A: All visitors must comply with any Rutgers' COVID-related safety rules in effect at the time. This includes instruction to refrain from coming to campus if sick. Any individual who fails to abide by the requirements will be considered non-compliant and may be subject to removal from campus.

Information on current guidelines may be found at <https://coronavirus.rutgers.edu>, or as shared by Program Coordinators, or posted on or in campus locations.

**Q: Should Program Coordinators keep copies of proof of vaccination or negative test?**

A: No, copies should not be retained. The requirement is to check at the door or gate prior to entry.

**Q: May program Coordinators ask to see a photo ID along with the proof of vaccination or negative test, to confirm that the name on the proof matches the person?**

A: Yes. It is permitted, but not required. For those under the age of 18, a parent or legal guardian should be asked to confirm identity.

**Q: I am organizing a one-week Camp with the same attendees each day. Do I have to ask for proof of vaccination or negative test every day?**

A: No. An initial check at the beginning of the activity will suffice. If new participants come in during the week, proof of vaccination or negative test must be provided by the new participants.

**Q: I am organizing a multi-week Camp with the same attendees each day. Do I have to ask for proof of vaccination or negative test every day?**

A: No. An initial check at the beginning of the activity will suffice. If a participant is not vaccinated, then new proof of negative test must be provided each week. If new participants come in during the week, proof of vaccination or negative test must be provided by the new participants.

**Q: I am a University employee and I am coordinating with a Camp Organizer to allow the Organizer to run activities on campus. I am not managing the Events and activities – the Organizer is. Do I have to check for proof of vaccination or negative test of all the attendees?**

A: As the Program Coordinator representing the University, you are responsible for ensuring full compliance with all requirements. You have the option of checking for proof of

vaccination or negative test yourself, OR you can require the Organizer to attest to full compliance and retain a copy of the signed attestation. A sample attestation form can be found at <https://ipo.rutgers.edu/covid-attestation>

**Q: What are acceptable forms of proof of vaccination or negative test?**

A: Acceptable proof of vaccination includes an original or clear copy of a CDC Vaccination Record card (a clear photo on a device can be used); official record from the New Jersey Immunization Information System or other State immunization registry; record from a health care provider's portal/medical record system on official letterhead signed by a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, physician's assistant, registered nurse or pharmacist; a military immunization or health record from the U.S. Armed Forces; or the Docket app on a mobile device. Acceptable proof of negative test is a hard copy or electronic report from a testing laboratory that shows the person's name, date of administration of test, and negative results.

**Q: Can I set up rules that are more restrictive than what the University requires, perhaps I retain copies of vaccine cards and use only N-95 masks?**

A: No. The Policy and posted information must be applied consistently throughout the university.

**Q: I have a participant with no proof of vaccination that had COVID in the past, and they continue to test positive weeks later. Can they participate?**

A: Yes, but that individual must provide a note from a health care provider that explains the individual's inability to provide a negative test and confirms that the individual is no longer contagious.

### **KEY DEFINITIONS**

**Camps:** Camps are multi-day or multi-week organized programs and activities for children and/or adults who are not Rutgers students, often held during academic breaks over the summer. Camps may include activities organized and sponsored by Rutgers, as well as activities organized and sponsored by an outside entity but occurring on Rutgers property through a use agreement, license, lease, or similar legal arrangement.

**Casual Visitors and Guests:** Individuals who come on campus for a short-term and/or transient visit, such as a business meeting, social interaction, or medical appointment.

**Non-Healthcare Contractor:** An individual who is not employed by Rutgers but is employed by a company with a contractual relationship with Rutgers to provide non-healthcare services who is or may be on campus for more than a short-term or brief time to perform the contracted services. Examples include, but are not limited to, people providing services at Rutgers through temporary employment agencies, construction and service staff, consultants, and the like. Individuals delivering goods to a location(s) on campus are not considered Non-Healthcare Contractors under this Policy.

**COVID-19 Immunization:** Currently, administration of a primary series of any COVID-19 vaccine authorized or approved for use in the United States by the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and recommended by the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is required by the University. The University, in accordance with CDC Guidelines, reserves the right to amend and add

additional requirements. As of the date of this Policy, there are currently three COVID-19 vaccines authorized for emergency use or approved by the FDA and recommended by the ACIP: two mRNA vaccines (Pfizer-BioNTech, Moderna) and one viral vector vaccine (Janssen [Johnson & Johnson]).

**Event:** Any non-credit program or planned indoor gathering of 25 or more people (including performers, audience, support staff, and technicians), whether public or private, held on-campus, with a specific location, date, and time.

**Event Attendee:** An individual who comes on campus to participate or take part in an Event.

**Guest Lecturers:** Individuals who, in response to an invitation from a University employee, teach or present at a class, lecture, seminar, etc., whether paid by Rutgers through any means or who undertake the services for no remuneration.

**Organizers:** An individual not employed by Rutgers who is responsible for organizing and managing a Camp, Event, or similar activity that will occur on Rutgers property. The Organizer typically liaises with a Program Coordinator to schedule and run the Camp, Event, or similar activity.

**Program Coordinators:** A University employee responsible for organizing and managing a Camp, Event, Guest Lecture, or similar activity described in this Policy. A Program Coordinator may be considered the “host” or may be the Rutgers liaison with a person or company that will use, lease, or license Rutgers indoor or outdoor space for purposes of running a Camp, Event, or similar activity.

**Program Participant:** An individual who is an Event Attendee, Camp attendee, presenter, or non-employee program staffer assisting with activities in a Rutgers building or on Rutgers grounds.

**University Affiliate:** Individuals who have a non-employee and non-student relationship with the University, including but not limited to Volunteers, Healthcare Contractors, Non-Healthcare Contractors, Guest Lecturers, Event Attendees, Camp participants, and other Program Participants.

**Volunteers:** An individual who performs a service at and/or for Rutgers University for civic, charitable, or humanitarian reasons, without promise, expectation, or receipt of compensation for the services rendered.