

Mandatory COVID Vaccination Information

Beginning September 1, 2021, Inova will require all rotating residents and fellows to be vaccinated for COVID-19 in order to rotate at any Inova facility. Proof of vaccination must be provided to the GME office PRIOR to the start of resident/fellow rotations. Proof of vaccination includes the following:

- Copy of CDC COVID vaccine card
- Receipt containing the complete immunization administration information
- A signed and current immunization consent form on official letterhead showing the vaccination was administered
- Official documentation from a government health agency
- Military immunization record

[Medical or religious exemptions request forms](#) must be received by the GME office **at least two weeks prior to the start of any rotation** to be considered. Exemptions may be accepted only if the following documentation is provided:

Medical Exemptions:

- May be granted if a licensed physician, licensed physician's assistant, licensed nurse practitioner, or licensed midwife (caring for a pregnant team member) certifies in writing that such vaccination may be detrimental to the team member's health or is otherwise medically contraindicated. Must include a statement indicating which vaccine may be detrimental, including an explanation of the valid medical basis for such determination, and the length of time for which it may be detrimental.
- May be granted on a temporary basis up to the point when the condition supporting an exemption is expected to resolve or expire per medical providers' instruction. In certain cases, a conditional exemption may be granted where additional specific condition or diagnoses information is required for evaluation.
- May be granted on a temporary basis in specific instances when a resident/fellow has received two doses of mRNA COVID vaccine and has a documented history of COVID.
- If a resident/fellow feels a continuation of a temporary exemption is needed, they must submit a new Vaccine Exemption Application Form along with an updated note from their provider. Once the temporary exemption has expired, the resident/fellow will be expected to comply with the vaccine requirements outlined in Inova's Immunization Program Policy.

Religious Exemptions:

- Will be considered only when sincerely held religious beliefs conflict with Inova's immunization policy.
- Will not be granted when opposition to the immunization is medical, scientific, political, philosophical, ethical, or otherwise secular rather than religious in nature.
- May require additional supporting documentation.

- Optional: A note from a religious leader may describe with specificity the sincerely held religious belief, practice, or observance that guides the objection to immunization.
- A complete submission for vaccination exemption must include both the Vaccination Exemption Application Form and any supporting documentation. Incomplete exemption application will not be reviewed. application will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by a multi-disciplinary committee.

To apply for a Medical or Religious Exemption:

Please submit the completed Vaccination Exemption Application Form along with supporting documentation outlined above and email to exemptionrequests@inova.org and gmecredentialing@inova.org.

If you have any questions regarding this mandate, please do not hesitate to contact the GME office (703-776-2626).

Thank you,

The Inova Fairfax Medical Campus GME Office