

Waring School
Students and the Covid-19 Vaccine
As of November 11, 2021

The school is committed to maintaining a safe educational environment for our students, and to limiting the spread of Covid-19 on our campus and in our community. As part of the school's ongoing health and safety measures, all students are required to be vaccinated against Covid-19 once they are eligible to receive the vaccine.

In support of requiring that students be vaccinated, the school relies on the following:

- A fully vaccinated student population is the best way to protect the health of students, employees, and the broader community against Covid-19 infection.
- Guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) emphasizes that vaccinations against the coronavirus are safe and effective and protect against current variants.
- People who are fully vaccinated are less likely to transmit infection to others or suffer severe cases of Covid-19.
- This public health approach is consistent with longstanding efforts across the United States to protect students of all ages from a wide range of serious and contagious diseases.

Timing of Vaccination Requirement

Students aged 12 and older must be fully vaccinated no later than November 24, 2021, unless the school approves a reasonable accommodation. Students aged 5-11 must be fully vaccinated no later than January 14, 2022, unless the school approves a reasonable accommodation. For students who become eligible after January 14, 2022, they must be vaccinated within eight (8) weeks from the date on which they first become eligible for the vaccine, unless the school approves a reasonable accommodation.

For purposes of this policy, a student will be considered fully vaccinated if at least 14 days have passed since the student received the second dose of a 2-dose vaccine (such as the Pfizer or Moderna vaccines), or since the student received the dose of a single-dose vaccine (such as the Johnson & Johnson/Janssen vaccine). (Please note that, as of October 2021, only the Pfizer vaccine has been approved for minors, though it is possible that vaccines from other manufacturers will be approved in the future.) If, in the future, annual or "booster" COVID-19 vaccinations are recommended to students, students may be required to receive those vaccinations in accordance with public health guidance. Students who do not provide proof of immunization or qualify for an exemption will not be permitted to attend the school or participate in any school activities.

All families must notify the School Nurse once a student has received the vaccine. Families may be asked to provide proof of vaccination.

Requests for Accommodation Due to Medical or Religious Reasons

The school will consider accommodations from this policy if a student’s health would be endangered by Covid-19 vaccination or if the student’s parents/guardians have sincerely held religious objections to Covid-19 vaccination.

Families seeking an exemption must contact the School Nurse immediately. If a parent/guardian requests an accommodation related to this policy, the school will engage in an interactive dialogue with the family regarding the request. Requests for exemption will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. When reviewing such requests, the school will consider numerous factors, including whether the student has been vaccinated for other diseases in the past. Even if a student is granted an exemption, the school may exclude the non-immunized student from school or school activities, consistent with applicable state laws.

Assistance with Vaccination Eligibility and Scheduling

Families who have any questions about whether a student is eligible to receive a Covid-19 vaccination, or how to obtain an appointment for a Covid-19 vaccination, should speak with School Nurse.

Additionally, the School Nurse can provide families with information and resources related to the availability of Covid-19 vaccines.

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Acknowledgment of Receipt

By signing below, I hereby acknowledge that I have received of a copy of this Policy regarding Vaccination against COVID-19. I further acknowledge that I have read and understood this policy. I understand that if my child has a medical reason, or if I have a sincerely held religious belief, that prevents my child from being vaccinated, I may speak with the School Nurse to request a reasonable accommodation. I understand that if I have any questions about this policy, I should, and will, speak with the School Nurse.

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian #1: _____

Print Full Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian #2: _____

Print Full Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Student if 18 or Older: _____

Print Full Name: _____ Date: _____