

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

for INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS



JUNE 29, 2021

VACCINATION REQUIREMENT UPDATE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The following Q&A addresses some of the most common questions that have arisen from the University's decision to require COVID-19 vaccinations for fall 2021 for students who will be attending Rutgers at one of our campus locations or participating in programs offered through the university.

Which vaccines will meet the Rutgers COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement?

Each student will be required to be vaccinated with one of the vaccines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA). For students outside of the US who cannot receive a USFDA-authorized vaccine, Rutgers will accept proof of vaccination by a [World Health Organization \(WHO\)](#) approved vaccine. The list of currently approved vaccines includes:

- Pfizer–BioNTech
- Moderna
- Johnson & Johnson/Jansenn
- Oxford–AstraZeneca (Vaxzevria, Covishield)
- Sinopharm–BIBP
- Sinovac

What if I cannot get a vaccination where I live (in the US or abroad), will I be able to get the COVID-19 vaccination when I get to the US?

Students can get vaccinated in the US at local pharmacies, vaccination centers, or at one of the Rutgers vaccination sites in Camden, Newark, or Piscataway. Appointments will be offered in advance at <https://rtr.ipo.rutgers.edu/vaccines/>.

Where/how can I upload my proof of vaccination?

Students who have received one of the approved vaccines either abroad or in the US should submit proof of vaccination through the [Rutgers Student Immunization portal](#) before accessing campus facilities by following the instructions for submitting proof of immunizations on the [Health Services](#) website. Students who have received a WHO-approved vaccine will not need to be revaccinated. They will not need to quarantine upon arrival.

Students who have not been fully vaccinated with an FDA or WHO-approved vaccine before their arrival on campus will be supported in getting vaccinated when they arrive.

Review detailed instructions and information including FAQs, on the [Rutgers University COVID Vaccine information page](#), with links to the CDC and Department of Health.

What if I have been fully or partially vaccinated with a vaccine that is not on the approved list?

Students who have received a vaccine that is not on the list approved by the FDA or WHO will need to be revaccinated to be permitted on campus. If you have questions about being revaccinated, you can read additional information at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control (CDC) under the section titled: [People vaccinated outside the United States](#).

Students will need to upload their proof of vaccination for non-FDA and non-WHO approved vaccines into the Immunization portal as well.

What if I can only get one dose of an approved COVID-19 vaccine that requires 2 doses before I arrive in the US?

We strongly encourage all eligible students to immediately seek out and receive COVID-19 vaccines that are nationally approved. Rutgers encourages students and all members of the Rutgers community to prioritize their health.

If you receive an incomplete series of an FDA or WHO approved vaccine prior to arrival, a complementary second dose will be provided to you upon arrival.

If you receive one dose of a non-FDA or non-WHO approved vaccine prior to arrival, you will need to be vaccinated with an FDA approved vaccine once you arrive.

Will I have to pay to be vaccinated in the US?

No. The US federal government is providing the COVID-19 vaccination [free of charge](#), regardless of immigration or health insurance status.

What is the deadline to submit the proof of vaccination?

Complete vaccination documentation should be uploaded to the [Rutgers Student Immunization portal](#) (NetID and password are required) at least two weeks prior to your arrival on campus, but no later than August 1, 2021.

International students who are unable to upload their proof of vaccination by August 1, may do so after they have been fully vaccinated. Please complete all other immunization requirements and submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination once you have received the vaccine.

As we are permitted to enter the USA only 30 days before the semester start date, how will the timeline for our quarantine and covid vaccination work out?

Students whose visa prevents them from entering the US before August 1 may book an appointment for vaccination in advance at <https://rtr.ipo.rutgers.edu/vaccines/>. Appointments will be available during all of August. Different vaccines may be available on each campus. Several vaccination options exist at Rutgers, including Johnson & Johnson (1 shot), Moderna (2 shots, 4 weeks apart), and Pfizer (2 shots, 3 weeks apart). Students will be permitted to access campus two weeks after one shot of a Pfizer or Moderna vaccine (with the understanding that they would need to get the second dose as scheduled to continue to be allowed campus access) or 2 weeks after 1 shot of Johnson and Johnson vaccine.

Students requiring a USFDA authorized vaccine after arriving in the US may also be vaccinated

at any other vaccination site throughout the US.

I will be enrolling from outside the US for the fall 2021 semester. Do I still need to upload proof of vaccination?

Please contact your graduate program director or academic advising office of your undergraduate school to confirm you are living abroad for the fall 2021 semester. If approved to do so by your program/school, you will be granted a temporary waiver from uploading your immunization information.

My vaccination report is not in English. Will Rutgers accept a translation?

We understand that some students may have vaccination records/reports in a different language than English. If your vaccination report is not in English, please upload a physician or official translation of the report, along with a copy of the original version. Our health services staff will evaluate these reports and work with students should there be any difficulties in securing appropriate translations.

When will the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) with UnitedHealthcare Student Resources (UHCSR) become effective?

The effective/termination dates and waiver/enrollment steps differ according to Student type: Students can submit a waiver to RGlobal if the policy meets the waiver requirements.

1) TAs/GAs, Post Doctorate, Graduate Fellows and RBHS should visit <https://riskmanagement.rutgers.edu/student-information/rutgers-university-student-health-insurance> for specific details.

2) The 2021 policy for ALL OTHER Graduate and Undergraduate students begins 8/15/2021, even if you register for classes after the effective date.

Students are required to waive or enroll in the Student Health Insurance Plan (SHIP) each semester before the deadline. Visit www.universityhealthplans.com

If you arrive in the United States and need medical care prior to the effective policies dates with the SHIP, please consider purchasing temporary and alternate coverage.

For more information about health insurance plans, the waiver process, and additional details, please visit the [Rutgers Global Health Insurance webpage](#).

We understand that students may have unique circumstances that are not covered in this FAQ. The Rutgers Health Services department will work with students to find an option that best suits their situation. Please email us with your questions at: vaccine@echo.rutgers.edu.

As Rutgers University, the State of New Jersey and the United States coronavirus-related guidance and policies continue to evolve, we will inform you of relevant changes by email. The [COVID Related International Student FAQs](#) contains updated details about vaccination requirements. Other resources include the [Rutgers Global Alerts](#) page, the [student health](#) site, as well as the university-wide website <http://coronavirus.rutgers.edu/>.