

Marcin Ziemski

From: Office of the Vice-Chancellor and President <noreply@uq.edu.au>
Sent: Monday, 20 December 2021 5:34 PM
To: Marcin Ziemski
Subject: Vaccine requirements for UQ in 2022

[View online](#)



A message from

Dear Marcin,

I am writing to confirm that from Monday 14 February 2022 you must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to attend a UQ campus, site or facility. This requirement will apply to staff (including academic affiliates), students, volunteers, contractors, UQ's controlled entities, tenants, and visitors aged 16 years and over. More [information is available on our website](#).

This is not a decision I have taken lightly. I have carefully read the feedback and personal stories received from members of our community. I have also carefully considered the health risks and consequences to our community resulting from the inevitable increase in community transmission of COVID-19 next year.

I believe vaccination is a key measure to minimise the impact on our community, and to minimise the impact on our teaching and research, and the broader communities we engage with.

I do want to acknowledge that the unpredictability of this virus means that we must remain vigilant and continue to respond to government directions as required. This means that, in response to changing circumstances, we may also need to re-introduce

other measures – such as masks, space occupancy, remote working and learning, and testing.

Next steps

In early January, staff and students will receive an email asking them to declare their vaccination status via a secure online UQ portal.

We are currently finalising the procedure for this requirement that will support UQ's [Health, Safety and Wellness Policy](#). The new procedure will be published online in mid-January.

Dedicated teams within HR and Student Services are also being established to provide staff and students with support and to answer questions they may have about the requirements.

Support available

I acknowledge that this is a complex matter, with a range of views and individual circumstances to be considered. The University is committed to having respectful conversations with our staff about their individual circumstances.

If you require further information, I encourage you to contact HR (askhr@uq.edu.au) or your manager or supervisor in the new year, who will both be able to answer any questions you may have.

I also encourage you to speak with your GP about any concerns you may have about receiving the vaccination. They are best placed to provide health advice based on individual circumstances.

Also, our [Know the facts](#) video series with UQ's leading experts answers questions on COVID-19 topics such as vaccine options and safety, boosters, virus variants, herd and natural immunity, protecting children, pregnancy and fertility, and long COVID.

Booking your vaccination

If you have not yet had your COVID-19 vaccination, staff and students [can book now with UQ Health Care](#), at the Gordon Greenwood Building (building 32) at St Lucia.

Appointments are available from 9.30am to 12.30pm Monday to Friday up until Friday 23 December, and then from Monday 10 January next year. Alternatively, you [can find a vaccine clinic](#) closer to your location during the holidays on the Queensland Government website.

I will be getting my booster over the Christmas break, following the announcement from government last week that you can now receive your booster five months after your second vaccination.

While we may not be able to stop the spread of the virus, the science indicates that being fully vaccinated reduces the severity and duration of the illness, hospitalisation rates and transmission – and 87 per cent of staff who responded to our survey told us that they would feel more comfortable coming to UQ if others were vaccinated.

I would like to thank staff for your continued diligence in keeping our community safe, the respectful way we engage in important discussions, and your thoughtful approach to supporting our colleagues.

With best wishes

Debbie

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