



Dear International Students:

Mason is excited to welcome you in person or virtually this fall! For those of you planning to be on campus, we know you are busy preparing for your intended travel to the United States and would like to share some important information about the University's plans for a safe re-opening this August. **Please read carefully - embedded hyperlinks direct you to portals to provide the University with required information** and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) that will help answer any questions you may have. Remember to complete [the survey at the end of this letter](#), even if you are planning to remain in your home country.

What is the COVID vaccine requirement for Mason?

- **The DEADLINE to be fully vaccinated is August 1, 2021.**
 - Some vaccines require two doses and a waiting period to be considered fully vaccinated. Please plan accordingly.
- Your vaccine must appear on the World Health Organization (WHO) Emergency Use List (EUL) COVID-19 vaccine.
- You are required to be vaccinated if:
 - You live on campus in a residence hall;
 - You are registered for at least one in-person or hybrid class for the fall semester; or
 - You plan on attending any on-campus events.
- You can get an exemption (special exception from the requirement) from the vaccine for [medical](#) reasons and [religious](#) beliefs:
 - Review and approval are required.
 - More information can be found on the [Student Health Services FAQ page](#).
 - Any student granted an exemption will be required to mask and practice physical distancing while on campus.

How do I meet the requirement?

- Upload proof that you have been vaccinated via the [Student Health Services COVID Vaccine Information page](#).

What if I can't meet the requirements?

If you are an international student and unable to fully vaccinate in your home country or current location by the August 1 deadline, you could still be able to come to Mason.

- Please inform us by sending a secure message via our [Patient Portal](#).
- We can give you more time to complete your vaccination after you arrive.
- Mason will host COVID-19 vaccination clinics at the beginning of the semester.
- Local pharmacies offer the vaccine. All COVID-19 vaccines in the US are given free of charge.

Will I need to quarantine?

Students who are not fully vaccinated and are coming to Mason from outside the US will be required to quarantine for 7-10 days, as recommended by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines.

- Students living on campus and arriving on August 16 or later will be provided space to quarantine on campus in a designated residence hall. If you arrive before your housing contract begins on either August 18 (first year) or August 20 (upper class), you will be charged \$55/night until the start date.
- While meal deliveries will not be provided, students will be permitted to order grab & go meals from campus dining locations.
- Students living off-campus, including those living alone, living with roommates, or living with relatives, will be expected to quarantine in their off-campus residence.
- Students can finish quarantine in 7 days, provided they have a negative COVID test 3-5 days after arrival in the US. Mason will make testing available to students who need it.

Other Immunization Requirements

In addition to COVID requirements, Mason also requires other vaccines and TB screening of all incoming students. Please click on the [Student Health Immunizations page](#) for further information. Be sure to read the entire page.

Travel Plans Survey

Please complete **THE FALL TRAVEL SURVEY** by August 1 in order to help us plan for your arrival on campus and make sure we have prepared enough vaccines and quarantine space.

For additional information regarding the vaccine, please refer to these [Frequently Asked Questions](#).

If you have questions not covered by the FAQs, for the fastest response, do NOT reply to this email. Please contact one of the email addresses provided below:

- Health and Vaccine related questions: immunize@gmu.edu

- Housing and Residence Life: housing@gmu.edu
- INTO Mason students: INTOexp@gmu.edu
- Exchange Students: intlex@gmu.edu
- Immigration and Visas
 - J-1 students: cbodziak@gmu.edu
 - F-1 students and other visa holders: oips@gmu.edu
 - New Undergraduate student I-20 questions: world@gmu.edu
 - New Graduate student I-20 questions: oipsadmi@gmu.edu

We look forward to welcoming you to Mason for the Fall 2021 semester and wish you safe travels.

Best,

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