

COVID-19 Vaccine FAQ

1. Does NWTC require the COVID-19 vaccination to enroll in classes?

No, NWTC does not require the COVID-19 vaccine to take classes on campus.

2. If NWTC doesn't require the COVID-19 vaccine and, the federal vaccination requirement for healthcare workers has ended, why am I still receiving information about the COVID-19 vaccination for clinical placement?

Clinical affiliation experience is a requirement for some programs in Health Sciences and Education, Trades and Engineering Technologies, or Public Safety.

Due to the recent changes made by the Federal Government, some sites are no longer requiring COVID-19 vaccination while other sites still require the vaccination. Like all clinical requirements, these expectations come to us directly from the clinical sites. Since we are guests in the clinical facilities, they can create a list of requirements specific to students participating in clinical at their site.

Furthermore, even though some of our clinical sites may no longer require the COVID-19 vaccination, they have implemented enhanced requirements for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), such as a fitted N95 face mask, for non-vaccinated students to be worn while at the clinical site.

3. Can you just place me at a clinical site that doesn't require the COVID-19 vaccination?

No. We do not give preferential treatment for clinical placement based upon COVID-19 vaccination status or exemption status.

Clinical requirements vary greatly by program, with many programs using multiple clinical sites to meet the program clinical outcomes. Because of this, it is likely you will be placed at more than one clinical site throughout your program. In this case, even if one site doesn't require vaccination, it's possible your next clinical site will require you to be vaccinated. It is also possible for clinical site vaccination requirements to change during your rotation. If this occurs, compliance to the updated requirements must be met.

4. Can I apply for a medical or religious exemption from receiving the COVID-19 vaccination?

Yes, there is an exemption process that our clinical partners have provided for us. Policies for requesting exemptions with our clinical partners vary greatly. Some clinical partners have allowed for NWTC to process medical and religious exemptions for students. Some clinical partners are processing student requests for medical and religious exemptions within their own organizations.

5. How do I ask for an exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination?

Instructions on how to decline and request an exemption from the COVID-19 vaccination are built in to your Caregiver Background Check and Immunization Tracker in your Viewpoint account. Vaccine exemption requests will not be considered if a student does not have a Viewpoint account.

6. What happens if my exemption request is denied, and I still refuse to receive the COVID-19 vaccination?

If your exemption request is denied and you still refuse to be vaccinated, you will be able to enroll in classes that are delivered on-campus. However, once your clinical rotations begin, your progression in your program has the potential to be stopped due to the requirements of the clinical site you are placed at. No refunds for previous coursework will be offered.

7. Will the process remain the same throughout my program?

Probably not. The COVID-19 vaccination requirements and processes of our clinical partners has changed many times in the last 18 months. It is very likely to change again, even while enrolled in your program. Attempting to complete your program while unvaccinated is at your own risk. No refunds for previous coursework will be offered, even as processes change.

~~*Updated 4/25/22~~

*Updated 9/14/23