

May 25, 2021

Dear Jewell Community,

Thank you for your support of Operation Safe Campus and for one another during an unusual 2020-2021 academic year. Faculty, staff and students have faced unique challenges, which by and large have all been handled successfully. We wish to convey special thanks to graduating seniors, who have done their best to thrive in unusual and sometimes challenging circumstances this year.

This fall, as a matter of public health, William Jewell College will require the COVID-19 vaccination from all faculty, staff and students. The scientific evidence for the COVID-19 vaccine is clear: the COVID-19 vaccine effectively eliminates the chances of death or serious illness in nearly all COVID-19 infections.

In the coming weeks, protocols and health department orders across the country will start to relax. As the William Jewell community achieves herd immunity over the summer, the College too will begin to suspend the protocols that kept us safe in an environment in which vaccine was as yet unavailable. Our decision to announce a vaccine requirement today allows unvaccinated individuals to properly plan and prepare for the fall semester.

Students may complete the [Health History and Immunization Form here](#) and submit to the Student Health Center. This form is normally required of all incoming students but will be required in its entirety of all students in 2021-22. It is of note that, as is legally required, our vaccine requirement provides opportunities for exemption for medical and religious reasons, which are described on page two of the form. Accurate collection of this information is critical for the College to manage an outbreak within our community.

Employees will be asked to present COVID-19 vaccination record cards to Human Resources (HR). Cards can be scanned and sent by email to vaccine@william.jewell.edu (employees only). Employees may provide a [statement of exemption](#) correlating with medical, religious, or personal reasons, as described within the [employee policy](#) on the Operation Resurgent Campus website, to HR for documentation in their employment record.

Proof of vaccination or exemption by employees and students is required by August 1, 2021.

As policy and guidance are finalized and implemented, we will provide resources to help transition to fall 2021. The information will be found at the [Operation Resurgent Campus webpage \(www.jewell.edu/coronavirus\)](http://www.jewell.edu/coronavirus), including:

- On-campus COVID-19 vaccination clinic in August to assist any who were unable to attend the spring vaccination clinics on campus or through Operation Safe
- Responses to frequently asked questions (FAQ)
- Updates to faculty, staff and student forums on dates/times to be determined.
- Forums for parents are being scheduled.

Thank you again for your resilience during the pandemic and your commitment to our health and safety. We look forward to a year of not only the full college student experience, but also of greeting one another in ways that are customary and welcome for the Jewell Community.

Sincerely,

Daniel Holt
Chairperson, Operational Planning Team