

May 26, 2021

Dear MCU Students,

As you already know, MCU is planning significant in-person operations beginning this fall, including normal residential, co-curricular and athletic experiences. We have every reason to expect the fall semester at MCU will look and feel much more like past years.

With stay-at-home orders phasing out and many of us eager to get back to face-to-face interactions, MCU has begun a soft return back to campus and some in-person services.

Vaccinations will be a critical component in our efforts to mitigate risk and protect the health and well-being of our MCU community.

**Effective July 15, MCU will require all faculty, staff and students to be fully vaccinated for COVID-19 two weeks prior to returning to campus.** This requirement will not apply to students in fully online programs.

All new and returning students who plan to register for in-person classes, live in The Villas, compete in the athletics program, and/or participate in any on-/off-campus MCU-sponsored events will need to submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination to the Student Wellness Center or provide an approved exemption prior to coming on campus. Students may submit their completed COVID-19 vaccination card to [Wellness@MarymountCalifornia.edu](mailto:Wellness@MarymountCalifornia.edu) or via this [online survey](#) (you need to be logged into your MCU email to access the survey). [Complete the survey](#) by June 15 and be entered to win a \$50 Amazon gift card.

Faculty, staff and students may request a medical or religious exemption to the vaccination requirement, and if approved, MCU will provide reasonable accommodations (as determined by applicable law). Students requesting an exemption must notify the Student Wellness Center at [Wellness@MarymountCalifornia.edu](mailto:Wellness@MarymountCalifornia.edu) (be sure to provide your name, student ID#, current contact information, and nature of exemption you are requesting).

Those who fail to comply with the mandate will not be permitted in-person access to campus programs, facilities or The Villas.

The university has reached this decision based on the guidance of the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and our COVID-19 Compliance Task Force, and in consultation with staff, faculty and student leaders. In addition, LA County has noted a substantial reduction in the transmission of the virus locally and a greater availability of vaccines at many locations nearby.

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If you have not received your COVID-19 vaccine, please call your healthcare provider, local pharmacy or the vaccination hotline at 1-800-232-0233 (or text your zip code to 439929 to receive a list of locations near you). Alternatively, you can visit one of these websites:

[LA County Department of Public Health](#) or [Centers for Disease Control](#).

Thank you for doing your part. As a Catholic university, we aspire to not only care for our Mariner family, but also our common home, which includes all the communities in which our faculty, staff and students work to make the world a better place. As Pope Francis has so clearly taught, receiving the vaccine is not only for ourselves as individuals but also for everyone we treasure to keep them safe and healthy, and to bring back the joys of life to us all.

I hope this notice will give you a head start in your thinking and planning. A more formal policy will be provided soon. We are deeply grateful for your commitment as we ramp up for what promises to be an interesting and, we expect, a successful fall.

Please note these important dates:

- August 1 – Athletics start and Villas open for athletes
- August 17 – Villas move in for new international students
- August 19 – Villas move in for new domestic students
- August 21 – Villas open for all residents
- August 20 – New student orientation
- August 23 – Classes start

Look forward to seeing you all back on campus.



Brian Marcotte  
President