

**RE: Mandatory Vaccinations for Faculty and Staff**

President@rutgers.edu &lt;president@rutgers.edu&gt;

Thu 9/16/2021 5:21 PM

To: Jon Oliver &lt;jon.oliver@rutgers.edu&gt;; President@rutgers.edu &lt;president@rutgers.edu&gt;

Cc: Andrea Bueschel &lt;andrea.bueschel@rutgers.edu&gt;; Mary Mickelsen &lt;mj@senate.rutgers.edu&gt;; Peter Gillett &lt;gillett@business.rutgers.edu&gt;

Dear Chairman Oliver,

I am writing to acknowledge receipt of the University Senate Executive Committee's resolution urging the university to mandate vaccination against COVID-19 for all faculty and staff. I certainly appreciate your strong interest in the health and safety of the Rutgers community, and I hope that you recognize that my administration has been working diligently to achieve an overwhelmingly high percentage of individuals at Rutgers reporting that they are fully vaccinated.

As of September 9, we have reached a 92 percent rate of full or partial vaccination among our faculty and staff. We will continue working to increase our numbers, and please know that we are in regular conversation with our various employee groups about the idea of a mandate. Our goal, in all these efforts, is to ensure the safest possible working and learning environment that we can provide.

Please know that I value the Senate executive committee's call for a university-wide vaccine mandate as an expression of our largest shared-governance body's desire for Rutgers to return as soon as possible to the vibrant, in-person academic experiences on which so much of our success has been built.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Holloway  
President & University Professor

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**From:** Jon Oliver <jon.oliver@rutgers.edu>**Sent:** Thursday, August 26, 2021 11:55 AM**To:** President@rutgers.edu**Cc:** Andrea Bueschel <andrea.bueschel@rutgers.edu>; Mary Mickelsen <mj@senate.rutgers.edu>;

Peter Gillett &lt;gillett@business.rutgers.edu&gt;

**Subject:** Mandatory Vaccinations for Faculty and Staff

August 24, 2021

Dr. Jonathan Holloway  
President and University Professor  
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey  
New Brunswick, N.J. 08901

Dear President Holloway,

I am writing to you to urge you to require all Rutgers faculty and staff to be vaccinated against the Covid-19 virus. Your bold and farsighted mandate for all students to be vaccinated before their return to campus has enabled Rutgers to begin its return to a semblance of normalcy, providing for a traditional student experience and a re-opening of our campuses.

Your decisive action prompted the University Senate Executive Committee to consider whether this mandate should be expanded to include all faculty and staff. The Senate

Executive Committee met on Friday August 21, 2021, to discuss the need for requiring the faculty and staff of Rutgers, to get fully vaccinated from Covid-19. The Executive Committee applauded your early decision to require all students to be vaccinated before returning to campus in September. This decision has resulted in a compliance rate of over 97% of all students.

We urge you to require all faculty and staff to do the same. While we understand exemptions and exceptions may apply in some cases, requiring this vaccine will protect our broader university community and the families and others we all meet. Vaccines will save lives and will allow the University to regain its normal operation and provide the educational experience our students deserve. The following resolution was approved unanimously:

***Be it resolved***

***that the Senate Executive Committee acting on behalf of the University Senate urge the administration to require all faculty and staff of the university to be fully vaccinated against Covid-19.***

Sincerely,

Jon L. Oliver, Chair

Cc: Dr. Peter Gillett, Vice Chair  
Ms. Mary Mickelsen, Executive Secretary.

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**Jon L. Oliver**  
**Assistant Dean for Information Technology**  
**Chair, Rutgers University Senate**

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**RUTGERS**  
University Senate