On behalf of Dr. Ravi Misra, Dean of the Graduate School:

Graduate Students,

MCW leadership informed all employees and learners that the institution is requiring all employees and learners to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, or have an approved medical or religious exemption, by 5:00pm November 1, 2021. I have attached the email for your reference.

At this time, I would like to call to your attention a few points of specific relevance to you as a graduate student:

- Learners who are in a program that is exclusively virtual and who anticipate no on-site presence in any owned or leased facility of MCW or any of its affiliate partners are encouraged to receive COVID-19 vaccinations, but as of now, will not be required to receive COVID-19 vaccinations as long as their duties are 100% virtual and they do not access any MCW/FH facilities.
- Affiliate organizations may require COVID-19 vaccinations at an earlier date; all learners must comply with any policies of the facilities in which they work or learn, in addition to MCW policies and procedures.
- Individuals may submit a request for a medical or religious accommodation exemption for the COVID-19 vaccine by August 24, 2021. A previously approved medical or religious accommodation exemption from the influenza vaccine is not an approved exemption to MCW’s COVID-19 vaccine requirement. For information on MCW’s process for requests and to access the exemption forms, please click here. Learners whose accommodation request has been approved may be required by MCW to utilize alternative safety mitigation measures to prevent the spread of communicable diseases while onsite at any leased or owned facility of MCW or its affiliate partners, including periodic COVID-19 diagnostic testing. COVID medical or religious exemptions will not exempt learners from any academic requirements.
- If you are a participant in MCW’s student health plan, both the influenza and COVID-19 vaccine are covered as preventative at no cost.
- Learners that need to schedule the COVID-19 vaccine can click here for additional information on scheduling.

Proof of vaccination process

- The Graduate School will email all individuals that require a proof of vaccination on Monday, August 2. If you do not receive a message, the Graduate School has your proof of vaccination on file and no further action is necessary.
- Please submit proof of vaccination to Angela Backus via email to abackus@mcw.edu.
- Valid proof of evidence of vaccination is:
  - CDC vaccine card or
  - Epic record or
  - Wisconsin Immunization Registry record

*MCW will accept evidence of vaccination that has received authorization by the World Health Organization.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at rmisra@mcw.edu or Angie Backus at abackus@mcw.edu.

Best Wishes and Stay well,
Ravi