

Subject Line: Athletics COVID Protocol

Sent to All Student-Athletes: December 14, 2021

Good Afternoon Student-Athletes and Athletic Staff,

I am writing to provide an update/change in our COVID-19 Plan. Effective Tuesday, January 18, 2022, the COVID-19 Booster for those student-athletes and athletic staff who are eligible *will* be **required not to participate in the weekly athletic testing protocol**. Please see below a message that went out last week from Amy DeKay, Vice President for Student Development which explains criteria for eligibility. Those student-athletes who are eligible for the booster and do not obtain such will be moved into the 6:00am testing routine on Monday/Wednesday/Friday during their traditional and non-traditional seasons or until they get the booster.

Likewise, given full time athletic staff serve in a wide variety of roles within the department, those who are eligible for the booster and do not obtain such will also be moved into the testing routine for the duration of the spring semester or until they get the booster. Part time athletic staff who are eligible for the booster who do not obtain it will be moved into the testing protocol for their traditional and non-traditional seasons or until they receive the booster. This will apply to both coaching and support staff members.

Given the rise in break through cases, continued variants, and public health information that booster shots are critical to enhancing immunity, we believe this will provide us the best opportunity to ensure not just health and safety but minimal disruptions to athletic play.

Students: Like for your initial COVID vaccine, once you receive a booster you should upload the relevant documentation to this NEW student booster collection link: <https://medaille.forms-db.com/view.php?id=207555>.

Brenda Dean will return to the office this Thursday and can be contacted at 716-880-2148 to assist with eligibility questions for students and staff. If you are eligible, it would be advisable to make your appointment as soon as possible given current demand.

Happy Holidays,

Sue Roarke
Director of Athletics

Susan M. Roarke
Director of Athletics
Medaille College
www.medaille.edu
716.880.2168



COVID-19 Vaccine/Booster Information:

We know that the reason the COVID-19 positivity and quarantine rates amongst our students remained so low this semester is because of the number of students that are vaccinated within our College. As a community this was key to our ability to provide a safe learning environment for all students as well as manage the demands placed on others when these cases occur. It also allowed for us to safely resume normal campus activities, events and student services through the fall semester. Words cannot express my gratitude for those that got vaccinated.

Given recent information from public health experts, **booster shots** are critical to enhancing immunity and public health. **I encourage all those eligible to receive a booster shot prior to the start of the spring semester, or as soon as they become eligible.** Eligible individuals are those who:

- Received their second dose of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccination at least six months ago.
- Received the Janssen/Johnson & Johnson vaccination at least two months ago.

Individuals who previously received other World Health Organization-approved vaccinations should receive a Pfizer booster dose if they received their initial vaccine series at least six months ago, in accordance with CDC guidance.

Students: Like for your initial COVID vaccine, once you receive a booster you should upload the relevant documentation to this NEW student booster collection link: <https://medaille.forms-db.com/view.php?id=207555>.

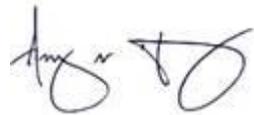
- If you have not yet received a booster, visit [vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find a location to make an appointment or visit your local pharmacy websites.

If you haven't submitted your initial vaccination information to the College, we ask that you do so using the following link: <https://medaille.forms-db.com/view.php?id=179250>.

Please use the time over break for those that are eligible to get the booster. We believe very soon, the booster may be needed to be considered exempt from close contact quarantine. The vaccine and booster helps ensure not just health and safety but as minimal as possible disruptions to your educational pursuits and lives.

You will continue to receive updates over the winter break, so please continue to check your emails. Wishing you and your families a very happy and healthy holiday season.

Cheers,



Amy M DeKay, MS
Vice President for Student Development
Medaille College
18 Agassiz Circle
Buffalo, NY 14214