June 16, 2022

Dear University Presidents,

Your commitment to keeping our community safe, especially in terms of getting your students, employees, and partners critical public health information during the COVID-19 pandemic, has been exemplary. As we approach the next academic year, I encourage your students and staff to remain up to date with their COVID-19 vaccination status.

Currently, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) defines being “up to date” as follows:

- People 5 to 49 years of age should complete a primary vaccine series and have one booster dose.
- People 50 years and older should complete a primary vaccine series and have two booster doses.
- Immunocompromised people should follow the CDC’s guidance, specifically for their specific medical conditions.

The “up-to-date” vaccination schedule can be found on the [CDC’s website](https://www.cdc.gov).

Public health research has shown that a primary COVID-19 vaccine series, with a booster dose, remains the most effective way to prevent serious outcomes from the virus.

Local data from Allegheny County support the benefits of a booster dose. You can review our [post-vaccination data dashboard](https://www.alleghenycounty.us/healthdepartment) for clear evidence of this benefit.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Debra

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