



Allana Olson <olso2119@umn.edu>

Ending the COVID vaccine mandate

Rachel T.A. Croson and Kenneth E. Horstman <ohrreply@umn.edu>

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Reply-To: Office of Human Resources <reply-fe5415717d620d7e731d-591_HTML-38664674-6336637-5001@ecomunications2.umn.edu>

To: oiso2119@umn.edu

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Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost Office of Human Resources

Dear students, faculty, and staff,

Throughout the pandemic, the University's approach to keeping our community as healthy as possible has been informed by public health guidance and our own medical and public health experts. At this time, experts strongly believe COVID-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future, but that for most, COVID symptoms have become much less severe.

We have also learned what the vaccines do and don't do. The COVID-19 vaccines are exceptionally effective at reducing severe illness, hospitalization, and death for individuals. However, they are less effective than originally hoped at preventing transmission. As a result, both the federal government and the state of Minnesota no longer require COVID-19 vaccination.

After consulting with numerous UMN governance bodies and a formal 30-day comment period to retire the policy, the University will end the COVID-19 vaccine requirement for students and employees effective July 1, 2023.

The University will continue to facilitate and strongly encourage COVID vaccinations and boosters as we learn more about the length of protection offered by the various vaccines. We anticipate that booster recommendations will continue to be based on individual factors such as age, health status, time since last vaccination, and other factors, and will work with our populations to identify and implement the care that is best for them.

For more information about the University's response to COVID-19, visit [Safe Campus](#).

Sincerely,

Rachel T.A. Croson

Executive Vice President and Provost

Kenneth E. Horstman
Vice President for Human Resources

This email was sent to all students, faculty, and staff systemwide on behalf of Executive Vice President and Provost Rachel T.A. Croson and Vice President Kenneth E. Horstman on June 9, 2023, by the Office of Human Resources, 100 Donhowe Building, [319 15th Ave SE, Minneapolis, MN, 55455, USA](#). The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer. [Read our privacy statement](#).

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