

## **BTI Member Schools COVID Protocols – Fall 2021**

Most BTI Schools are **REQUIRING VACCINATION** to cross-register for the Fall 2021 session. You may be asked to provide mandated vaccination records to the host, as well as your home, school (and/or medical/religious exemption). You are expected to abide by the rules of both your home and host school regarding vaccination and masking policies (alongside any federal, state, or municipal mandates). Please contact your home institution with any questions.

### **BOSTON COLLEGE (Theology Dept. and STM)**

The University will require all students, faculty, and staff to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 before participating in any on-campus activity related to the 2021-2022 academic year.

Please follow the steps below to record when you have received a full vaccine dose. Exemptions will be granted for legitimate religious and medical reasons. To request an exemption, please fill out the COVID-19 Vaccination Exemption Request Form which can be found on the [Office for Institutional Diversity website](#).

1. Login to the [Agora Portal](#) (BC log-in credentials required)
2. Click the "PeopleSoft Human Resources Services" link located in the "My Services" section
3. Confirm your identity through BC's 2-Step Verification process.
  - a. To login to Peoplesoft Human Resources while off campus, you will need to connect to a [BC VPN](#) and confirm your identity through [BC's 2-step Verification](#)
4. From the "Main Menu" select "Self Service" then "Personal Information" and select "Update COVID-19 Record"
5. Follow the instructions on the page and click "Save" to submit your COVID-19 Immunization Record. You will be asked to upload your CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card to submit your form.
6. If you have tested positive for COVID-19, please include your positive test date under the "COVID-19 Testing Record" tab
7. If you have any questions, please reach out to [HR@bc.edu](mailto:HR@bc.edu)

### **BOSTON UNIVERSITY (GPR and STH)**

All students planning to take courses through Boston University must adhere to BU's Vaccine and COVID-Testing requirements for Fall 2021. A reminder to all BTI students about the BU requirements: You will need your BU ID number, BU login and password to meet these requirements. If you do not have this information, please contact [sthregfa@bu.edu](mailto:sthregfa@bu.edu) (STH) or Wendy Czik, [wlczik@bu.edu](mailto:wlczik@bu.edu) (GPR).

#### **COVID Immunization and Testing Guidelines:**

This fall, Boston University is requiring that all students who participate in on-campus activities receive a COVID vaccine. Only students who are compliant with the University's vaccine requirements (or have received a medical or religious exemption or an extension) may participate in on-campus activities, including classes and research activities, after August 1.

Additionally, if you have not uploaded your information into Patient Connect, you will be withdrawn from classes.

You may request to be vaccinated upon your arrival in Boston, by selecting an extension through Patient Connect. If your request is approved, you will receive an email and upon your arrival to campus, you will be required to schedule a vaccine appointment in the community or via Student Health Services.

You can find information on uploading your vaccination documentation here:

<https://www.bu.edu/back2bu/campus-life-graduates/bu-community-health-safety/covid-19-vaccination-information/>,

In addition to the vaccine requirement,

- COVID testing will also be required throughout the fall semester. Upon arrival to campus, all students, including graduate and professional students, will be asked to limit their interactions with others until they receive a negative COVID test, regardless of whether they are fully vaccinated. Testing will continue weekly thereafter.
- Students will also be required to complete daily symptom attestations before arriving onto campus. You should be able to access the daily attestation survey via <https://www.bu.edu/healthway/>.
- Additionally, masks will be required in indoor spaces throughout campus for the duration of the fall semester.
- You can find a list of COVID safety FAQs here: <https://www.bu.edu/grad/2021/06/24/covid-19-faqs-for-incoming-graduate-and-professional-students/>.

**For BTI students, a couple of clarifying FAQ's:**

- BTI students registered for a BU course will be required to utilize the Patient Connect portal to upload their COVID vaccination record to Boston University.
- BTI students will need to get COVID testing at Boston University regardless of testing at their home institutions.
- BTI students will need physical BU ID cards to have access to BU testing.
- How to get a BU Terrier Card:
  - BTI students will need to upload a picture on their BU Studentlink ([http://www.bu.edu/link/bin/uiscgi\\_studentlink.pl/uismpl/?ModuleName=menu.pl&NewMenu=Home](http://www.bu.edu/link/bin/uiscgi_studentlink.pl/uismpl/?ModuleName=menu.pl&NewMenu=Home)). Photo upload procedure and guidelines are available on the Terrier Card website (<https://www.bu.edu/housing/terrier-card-photo-upload/>). Students who upload their ID photos after August 6th will need to contact the Terrier Card Office ([tco@bu.edu](mailto:tco@bu.edu)) to schedule a pickup time. Please do not hesitate to contact the Terrier Card Office if you have any additional questions.
- BTI students will be required to complete Daily Symptom Attestation Surveys via BU Heathway Portal.

If you have any questions about these requirements, please email us at [sthregfa@bu.edu](mailto:sthregfa@bu.edu).

**GORDON-CONWELL**

GCTS are not requiring students to provide their COVID-19 vaccine cards at this time, but we are requiring everyone who is not vaccinated to continue to wear masks while on campus.

Gordon-Conwell will trust every member of our community will follow the guidelines based on their own vaccination timeline. We will not require individuals to show proof of vaccination in order to remove their mask. The committee encourages everyone who is able to get vaccinated. If you have been vaccinated, please remember it's 2 weeks after your last shot that you are considered fully vaccinated. Student Life ([stulife@gordonconwell.edu](mailto:stulife@gordonconwell.edu)), our school nurse ([hrawding@gordonconwell.edu](mailto:hrawding@gordonconwell.edu)) or the public health nurse (978-290-9618) are happy to help direct you to a vaccination location or answer any questions you may have. [Here](#) is some info from the CDC on being fully vaccinated.

Classrooms and chapel will have an area (usually the back row) of each room designated for people who would like to social distance and you will see signage noting that. Please note that as Guest Housing is accommodating travelers, there are special guidelines that are followed in these situations—guests are directly made aware of those.

We wanted to include some suggestions related to relationships and our life together in community:

- We've become used to some new patterns of relating over the past 15 months that may take some time to adapt to these new freedoms we now have. Extra kindness and acceptance in this season will be much appreciated.
- Communication is key! We have missed out on a year of all that is gathered from in-person communication and relationship building. We've changed as people as well. Let's assume great intentions from each other, and when we're frustrated, let's chat! Dr. Sunquist wrote a helpful reflection on this last year in his [blog](#)
- Because each of us is unique in our health histories, we recognize that it is not always caring to ask if someone has been vaccinated. We encourage that if appropriate in a meeting situation you share if you are vaccinated and trust that the other person or people will remove their masks if they are willing and able to do so, but please do not ask for or expect mask removal.

For questions relating to GCTS as a workplace, please contact Steve Greisdorf ([sgreisdorf@gordonconwell.edu](mailto:sgreisdorf@gordonconwell.edu)). For questions relating to students, please contact the Dean of Students, [jholiday@gordonconwell.edu](mailto:jholiday@gordonconwell.edu).

## HARTFORD SEMINARY

\*When the FDA gives final approval to COVID-19 vaccines, ending its "emergency use" status, all students taking in-person classes at Hartford Seminary will be required to be vaccinated. Students should plan accordingly therefore, so that they do not need to miss classes because they have not yet been vaccinated. International students should check with their program director about vaccination timelines and opportunities for, when needed, vaccination upon arrival into the country. Regardless of approval status, however, vaccinated students should submit proof of vaccination to the registrar immediately.\*

\*FAQs \*

\*What will the Seminary accept as proof of vaccination? \*

For students receiving their vaccine in the United States, the preferred proof of immunity is a copy of your official CDC vaccine card. Students unable to provide a copy of the card, or those receiving their vaccine outside the US, should contact the Dean's Office ([Dean@hartsem.edu](mailto:Dean@hartsem.edu)).

\*I'm planning to take a course on campus this fall, will I need to show proof of vaccination before I can attend? \*

Currently, since all the vaccines remain in "emergency use" status, proof of vaccination is not required to attend courses on-campus this fall. Proof of vaccination will be required only once the FDA gives full approval to one of the vaccines. However, if you already have proof of vaccination, please submit it to the Registrar's Office prior to the start of the fall semester.

\*What happens if full FDA approval is given mid-semester and I can't provide proof of vaccination? Will I be asked to leave my classes if I can't provide proof of vaccination? \*

Students who have not submitted records will be contacted by the Dean's Office for a consultation.

\*I don't plan on receiving a vaccine. Are exemptions available? \*

Yes. The Seminary will allow for both medical and non-medical exemptions. However, students who receive an exemption may still be asked to wear a mask when meeting indoors. Please contact the Dean's Office if you would like to request an exemption to the COVID-19 vaccine requirement ([Dean@hartsem.edu](mailto:Dean@hartsem.edu)).

\*Do I have to wear a mask when I return to campus? \*

The Seminary is following current [CDC](#), [State of Connecticut](#), and municipal guidance and requirements for masking requirements. Since guidance is ever changing, please contact the Registrar's Office if you have any questions about current requirements for mask wearing while on campus. While CDC and CT are still "recommend" the City of Hartford just instituted an indoor mask mandate as of August 10.

## HARVARD

Cross registration will be permitted into HDS from schools where students are required to be vaccinated.

Cross-registration will *not* be permitted into HDS from schools where students are not required to be vaccinated.

Once BTI students are approved to register at HDS via the regular cross registration process, they will receive and are required to acknowledge online an agreement that outlines the terms and conditions of their registration for the Fall 2021 semester at HDS. This agreement includes specific actions that students must take at the host school. These actions will be audited regularly by HDS for compliance.

A student who has been notified by their home school that they are not in compliance with their home school's COVID protocols will not be permitted on the Harvard campus.

These procedures will be reviewed during the fall to determine whether they will need to continue in the Spring 2022 semester.

## **HEBREW COLLEGE**

At Hebrew College, all students, faculty, staff, regular renters, and contractors returning to work or study on campus must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. All students, staff, faculty, renters, and visitors will be required to wear masks when in the building. For questions, contact Marcia Spellman, Registrar, at [registrar@hebrewcollege.edu](mailto:registrar@hebrewcollege.edu)

## **HOLY CROSS**

All students, staff and faculty must be vaccinated. HCHC allows for medical exemption only.

## **ST. JOHN'S**

BTI students attending classes at Saint John's Seminary in person will be required to be masked at all times if they are not vaccinated. As we monitor the Delta variant and local infection rates, it may become necessary to modify our policy.