



## ARKANSAS BAPTIST COLLEGE COVID-19 POLICY

Arkansas Baptist College requires that all students who attend either the Main Campus or New Life Campus must be immunized against COVID-19. The requirement applies to all students who will be on campus to live, attend classes, or engage in any in-person activities.

Students living on campus must receive their first vaccination by January 2, 2022 and must receive the second dose by February 10, 2022. In order to be considered fully vaccinated two weeks must have elapsed after the final injection of an FDA-authorized vaccine. Commuter students must receive their first vaccination shot by the first day of classes on January 5, 2022, and, if a vaccine requiring two doses is selected, they must receive their second vaccination shot by February 10, 2022.

All faculty, staff, and consultants must be vaccinated. Faculty, staff, and consultants who have not yet been vaccinated must receive their first vaccination shot before the start of the semester on January 3, 2022, and their second shot by February 10, 2022.

The College recognizes that students outside the United States may only be able to obtain vaccines that have been authorized by the World Health Organization (WHO) but not the FDA. Following the guidelines of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), ABC recognizes vaccines authorized for use by the WHO. Accordingly, international students who receive any of the FDA- or WHO-authorized vaccines meet the ABC requirement.

The College also understands that some students based outside the United States might not be able to obtain a vaccine authorized by either the WHO or FDA. ABC will work with these students to help them receive an FDA-approved vaccine after they arrive in the United States.

Acceptable forms of documentation include:

- a completed CDC COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card or other official documentation authorized by a governmental authority of competent jurisdiction;  
**or**
- medical records signed by a licensed health care provider indicating vaccine name and dates of administration.

Faculty and staff may provide proof of vaccination to the Office of Human Resources (via email at [hr@arkansasbaptist.edu](mailto:hr@arkansasbaptist.edu) or by delivering in person to the Administration building).

Students must submit documentation to the Office of Admissions.

Please note that ABC will allow limited medical and religious exemptions in keeping with applicable law and standard practices.

To request a medical accommodation, students, faculty, and staff, must complete a Request for Medical Accommodation Form signed by a medical doctor, physician's assistant, or nurse practitioner with whom the student, faculty or staff member has a current professional relationship. Students will submit the form to the Office of Student Affairs. Faculty and staff will submit the form to the Office of Human Resources.

To request a religious accommodation, students, faculty, and staff, must complete a written statement, explaining how immunization conflicts with the student's sincere religious beliefs and submit a Request for Religious Accommodation Form. Students will submit the form to the Office of Admissions. Faculty and staff will submit the form to the Office of Human Resources.

The College will evaluate all requests in accordance with guidance from public health authorities, College policy and applicable law.

Arkansas Baptist College will provide reasonable accommodations to students, faculty, and staff who are unable to receive the vaccine for religious or medical reasons, provided they do not create an undue hardship for the College and do not pose a direct threat to the health or safety of others on campus. Remote work or learning opportunities will not necessarily be available as an accommodation.

Those who are granted exemptions, faculty, staff, consultants, or students, will be subject to weekly testing to gain campus access. The College will **NOT** be responsible for any testing costs incurred.

This policy is subject to change based on factors such as the progress of the COVID-19 pandemic, guidance from local, state, and federal agencies, and changes in applicable law. All changes will be promptly communicated to the Arkansas Baptist College community