



# SUNY DOWNSTATE Health Sciences University

Division of Student Affairs

University Hospital of Brooklyn  
College of Medicine  
School of Graduate Studies  
College of Nursing  
School of Health Professions  
School of Public Health

## **Exemption to Required COVID Vaccination for SUNY Downstate Students**

On August 21, 2021, the State University of New York issued a [COVID-19 Vaccination Policy](#) which requires all students on SUNY campuses to be vaccinated for the Fall 2021 semester. In addition, on August 18, 2021, the New York State Commissioner of Health issued an Order, pursuant to Public Health Law Section 16, requiring all patient-facing health care workers in the State of New York to receive their first dose of the vaccine by September 27, 2021. SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University ("SUNY Downstate") has determined, by virtue of the unique, physical structure of SUNY Downstate's academic and healthcare enterprises, that anyone who may encounter a patient at any time is considered a "patient-facing healthcare worker." Therefore, all persons/individuals within the entire campus community—staff, students, faculty (including voluntary), volunteers, and long-term contractors/agency employees – must be vaccinated.

All SUNY Downstate students will be required to provide proof of vaccination to comply with the mandates by the State University of New York and the Commissioner of Health. Only persons who have received an exemption will be excused from the mandate. Each request for an exemption must be made in writing and should be submitted as soon as possible to meet the compliance deadline. The exemption request must be submitted via the attached forms and will be evaluated as follows:

### **Medical exemptions:**

- Students requesting a medical exemption should not use this form. You should use the Medical Exemption form.

### **Fully Remote Instruction exemptions:**

- This exemption applies ONLY to students in the School of Public Health who are fully remote and are not planning to be on campus for any reason during the Spring 2022 semester. (This includes the Residence Halls, use of the Library in-person, attending classes or review sessions in-person, etc.)

SUNY Downstate reserves the right to request additional information which it deems necessary to properly evaluate any exemption request. A student's failure to provide or authorize the release of requested additional information will result in a denial of the exemption. Submission of false information in connection with the request for an exemption will subject the student to appropriate disciplinary action.

Decisions regarding exemption requests will be communicated to the individual via their SUNY Downstate/campus-based email.

Note: Students who also are employees of SUNY Downstate must file an exemption request as an employee and are not eligible for the “Fully Remote Instruction” exemption. Decisions on exemptions on the employee side will be honored in your status as a student.

Forms can be returned to the Office of Student Affairs via email ([studentaffairs@downstate.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@downstate.edu)), via fax (718-270-7592) or in person to the Student Services Center (Basic Science Building 1-1012).



# SUNY DOWNSTATE Health Sciences University

## **COVID-19 Vaccination Fully Remote Instruction Exemption Request Form**

To request a fully remote instruction exemption from the SUNY COVID-19 Vaccination requirement, please complete this form and submit it to the Office of Student Affairs. A decision regarding your request will be released through your Downstate email.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

School (check one): ( ) Public Health

\*Only students in the School of Public Health are potentially eligible for this request

Academic Program: \_\_\_\_\_

Semester: \_\_\_\_\_

SUNY Downstate/Campus Based Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Please check each box to acknowledge:**

☐ I understand that all SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University students who access any SUNY campus facilities in person for any reason are to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19, with limited exceptions granted for medical reasons only.

☐ I am requesting an exemption from this requirement beginning on the date this form is signed, and attest that I am registered only for courses taught in Fully Remote Instruction format or for courses offered through the HYFLEX model, but will attend these courses only in an entirely online format, even if an in-person version is available.

☐ I certify that none of the courses I am participating in have an in-person element nor a clinical element.

☐ I will not have a physical presence at any SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University facility, nor any clinical or affiliated facility, including for the purpose of using on-campus services -- including, but not limited to, the Residence Halls, Student Center, the Library, or any student service -- for the duration of the Spring 2022 semester.

☐ I understand that if I want to register for only Fully Remote Instruction courses again during a subsequent semester, I will need to request a new waiver.

☐ Furthermore, I attest that if I must have an in-person presence at any SUNY facility after signing this form, that I will submit proof of COVID-19 vaccination to Student Health Services.

I have read and understand the foregoing statements and sign it with full knowledge of its meaning and content.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please note that the campus reserves the right to request additional documentation to support a request for an exemption.*

**State University of New York Downstate Health Sciences University**

450 Clarkson Avenue, MSC 85, Brooklyn, NY 11203-2098 • Phone 718 270-2187 Fax 718 270-7592 • [studentaffairs@downstate.edu](mailto:studentaffairs@downstate.edu)