

Influenza Vaccination Policy

Effective: September 10, 2020

Revision History:

October 14, 2021

Executive Summary:

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic and the upcoming influenza (“flu”) season, beginning in the 2020-21 Academic Year, Barnard College will require that all students, faculty and staff receive the annual flu vaccine, subject to the exemptions listed below.

Reason for the Policy:

According to the Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC), for the upcoming influenza season, influenza vaccination will be paramount to reduce the impact of respiratory illnesses in the population and resulting burdens on the healthcare system during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The flu vaccine has long been accepted as a safe and effective way to prevent millions of illnesses and thousands of related doctor and hospital visits every year. Given the current COVID-19 pandemic, it is even more critical than usual to assure widespread flu vaccination.

Who is Responsible for This Policy:

Responsible Office for Staff & Faculty: Human Resources

Tel: (646) 745-8350

hr@barnard.edu

Responsible Office for Students: Primary Care Health Services (212) 854-2091

Who is Governed by This Policy:

All Barnard students, faculty and staff are governed by this policy.

Policy Statement:

All Barnard students, faculty and staff are required to receive the flu vaccine annually , subject only to the exemptions described below.

Those individuals who are accessing campus during the fall semester should receive their flu shot by November 30.

Students who do not comply with the flu vaccination requirement, and are not eligible for an exemption, are subject to removal of ability to access campus buildings and facilities, and/or loss

of housing.

Exemptions for Medical and Religious Reasons

Students, faculty and staff may request an exemption from the flu vaccine requirement for medical reasons or for those that hold religious beliefs contrary to the practice of immunization. A list of established medical contraindications to and precautions for flu vaccine can be found at the [CDC website](#) (Table 3).

If approved for a medical or religious exemption, students, faculty or staff will not be required to comply with the flu vaccine requirement.

Procedure to Request an Exemption:

Faculty or staff members who are requesting a medical or religious exemption to this policy, should submit the [Exemption Request Form for Faculty and Staff](#) to the Office of Human Resources at hr@barnard.edu.

Students who are requesting a medical or religious exemption to this policy, should complete the exemption form found on the [Primary Care Health Services website](#).

Barnard will be offering opportunities for flu vaccination on campus this fall for students, staff and faculty.

Further resources and information regarding the Flu Vaccine may be found here:

<https://www1.nyc.gov/assets/doh/downloads/pdf/flu/vaccine-facts.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flulive.pdf>

<https://www.cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/vis/vis-statements/flu.pdf>

Website for This Policy:

<https://barnard.edu/college-policies-procedures>