VSA In-Person Event COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

In order to ensure the highest degree of safety for VSA faculty and students as well as others impacted by our in-person events, VSA follows all Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidance regarding policies and best practices regarding COVID-19.

**All VSA students participating in any in-person component of any course must be fully vaccinated prior to arrival at the in-person event.**

Prior to arrival at the in-person event, students should be prepared to show proof of vaccination via a government-issued vaccination record card.

**What constitutes being “fully vaccinated”?**

"Fully vaccinated" means that two weeks have passed since a person received a booster shot (if available) of the COVID-19 vaccine plus either a single-shot COVID-19 vaccine or two doses of a two-shot COVID-19 vaccine.

Having previously been infected or tested positive for COVID-19 without receiving a vaccination does not constitute being fully vaccinated. Given that the available vaccines have been proven safe and largely effective against at least severe cases and death, being vaccinated is the only way to ensure the highest possible degree of safety for our students and those with whom they come in contact as a result of the VSA in-person event.

**Exemptions**

While VSA respects every individual’s right to make their own decision regarding vaccination (whether for medical, religious or conscientious objection reasons), due to the nature of our in-person events we are unfortunately unable to responsibly assume the risk inherent in hosting anyone who is not vaccinated.

**Changes to the Policy**

Due to the ever-shifting nature of this pandemic, VSA reserves the right to make changes to this policy as needed at any time in order to ensure the safety of faculty, staff, students and others impacted by VSA events. As a result, it is strongly recommended that all students making travel arrangements to attend an in-person VSA event purchase and maintain valid travel insurance for all elements of the related trip.