

27 JANUARY 2022

Faculty of Education communication to stakeholders concerning vaccination policy

Dear student, applicant, staff member and other stakeholders

The "INTERIM COVID-19 VACCINATION POLICY FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF THE WESTERN CAPE FOR 2022" was approved by the Council of the University of the Western Cape on 25 November 2021.

The Policy records that the majority of stakeholders have advocated for hybrid learning and teaching, and an incremental return to Campus. This serves the interests of its students and will allow them to enjoy all the benefits of a holistic campus experience.

In terms of the policy, a general soft mandate applies where students who are not vaccinated may register for their relevant degree or module but may not enter Campus or attend certain University events.

Online components of Hybrid learning will continue for unvaccinated students who may not enter campus or access face-to-face learning and teaching.

For modules offered and taught by the Faculty of Education staff, a soft mandate approach will be pursued by the Faculty of Education.

In some cases, like in the case of service level modules offered by other Faculties for the Faculty of Education, the respective Faculties' regulations will have to be adhered to. In our Faculty of Education, where programmes require face-to-face or hybrid learning and teaching, and/or lab work, staff and students who return to campus would need to be vaccinated.

The Faculty of Education has Practical Learning as a compulsory component of all Bachelor of Education programmes (BED SP, BED FP, BED SP+FET) and its PGCE programme. Each provincial education department's regulations with regard to entry to schools must be adhered to.

Online learning will continue for unvaccinated students who may not enter campus to access face-to-face learning and teaching.

Students, staff, service providers and visitors may apply for an exemption from the Policy based on verifiable medical, constitutional and/or religious grounds.

The Policy will become effective on 3 January 2021 and will be reviewed in the first semester of 2022.

Regards

Faculty of Education Management Committee

Copy of UWC interim COVID-19 Vaccination Policy attached.