



MEDIA RELEASE

FOR RELEASE: Immediately

DATE: November 2, 2022

CONTACT: Raechel Dawson: (206) 592-3393, rdawson@highline.edu

Highline College Lifts COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement

Action Comes Following Gov. Jay Inslee's Recission of Higher Ed. Proclamation

DES MOINES, Wash. — As of Nov. 1, 2022, students at Highline College are no longer required to attest they have been vaccinated against COVID-19 in order to enroll in classes, attend classes on campus or visit Highline College for any reason. However, students who are in programs that require off-campus activities, such as clinical rotations at health care sites, must follow the requirements in place for the program or facility involved.

Students outside of these programs who choose not to be vaccinated will no longer be required to submit an exemption request.

This change comes after Washington state Gov. Jay Inslee issued an [announcement](#) that all COVID-19 emergency orders, including the [higher education proclamation](#), will be rescinded by Oct. 31. The higher education proclamation previously required students at vaccination-required college campuses to fill out an immunization self-attestation form or receive an approved medical or religious exemption as a condition of enrollment.

While Highline College leadership looks forward to the flexibility this change will bring, the college still believes vaccination is the best defense against the fatal consequences COVID-19 can cause as well as reducing its spread. For this reason, the college will continue to heavily encourage all students and members of the college community to become fully vaccinated and keep up with boosters as they become available.

More information can be found at Highline College's [2022-23 COVID-19 Response Plan](#).

###

Links within this release:

- <https://www.governor.wa.gov/news-media/inslee-announces-end-remaining-covid-19-emergency-orders-and-state-emergency-october-31>
- https://www.governor.wa.gov/sites/default/files/proclamations/proc_20-12.5.pdf
- <https://www.highline.edu/covid19/covid19-safety-plans/>

Founded in 1961 as the first community college in King County, Highline College annually serves 13,000 students. With over 77 percent students of color, Highline is the most diverse higher education institution in the state. The college offers a wide range of academic transfer, professional-technical education, basic skills and applied bachelor's degree programs. Alumni include former Seattle Mayor Norm Rice, entrepreneur Junki Yoshida and former Washington state poet laureate Sam Green.