

STUDENT FAQs

Fall 2021 Return to Campus Plan and COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement July 19, 2021

(Q1) What is the Fall 2021 return to campus plan?

(A1) Fall 2021 classes will begin at 8:00am on Wednesday, August 18, 2021.

As announced by President French on March 30, 2021, the University will return to a fully in-person residential and instruction model, with students and instructors in physical classrooms. A significantly limited amount of classes will be available for which students can register. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their academic advisors for guidance on course selection.

(Q2) What COVID-19 protocols will remain in place for the Fall 2021 semester?

(A2) We will discontinue temperature screening for the Fall, but will continue with on-going testing as outlined below:

- **Vaccinated Individuals – PCR test every 6 weeks**
- **Non Vaccinated Individuals – Rapid test twice a week, PCR test every 7 days**

Additional details regarding when testing will occur, along with our protocols related to mask/face covering and social distancing, will be shared towards the beginning of the Fall 2021 semester.

(Q3) What is the move-in date for students residing on-campus for the Fall 2021 semester?

- (A3)** - August 11, 2021 (for new incoming students)
- August 13, 2021 (for continuing students)

(Q4) How do I provide proof that I have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19?

(A4) Verification of your COVID-19 vaccination status must be submitted through [My Panther Health Portal \(http://cau.medicatconnect.com\)](http://cau.medicatconnect.com). This requirement can be met by receiving a full course of any vaccines approved by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC) or the World Health Organization (WHO).

(Q5) Are there specific types of COVID-19 vaccines required by the University?

(A5) Clark Atlanta University will require proof of vaccination with one of the following WHO- and CDC-authorized vaccine brands:

- Pfizer/BioNTech
- Moderna
- Johnson & Johnson (J&J)/Janssen
- AstraZeneca
- Covishield (Serum Institute of India);
- Sinopharm (Beijing Bio-Institute of Biological Products)
- Comirnaty/BNT162b2 (Fosun Pharmaceuticals, Hong Kong)
- Sinovac-CoronaVac

***Students who have received a COVID-19 vaccine brand not on this list will need to receive an approved vaccination (as noted above).**

(Q6) Do I have to be vaccinated if I plan to reside off-campus?

(A6) Yes. Students accessing University property for classes, co-curricular activities, dining, the Campus Store, etc. must be fully vaccinated.

(Q7) What if I cannot be vaccinated due to medical or religious reasons?

(A7) Students who have a documented medical or religious justification for not being vaccinated will need to submit an exemption request form via the [My Panther Health Portal \(http://cau.medicatconnect.com\)](http://cau.medicatconnect.com).

The form is available on the [Resources](https://www.cau.edu/studentlife/Health%20Services/resources.html) link of the CAU Student Health Services web page (<https://www.cau.edu/studentlife/Health%20Services/resources.html>). It is important to note that students who receive an exemption will be required to complete COVID-19 testing, maintain social distancing, and wear face mask/covering until further notice.

(Q8) If granted an exemption from the vaccine, what protocols will I need to follow?

(A8) In order to reduce the possibility of students (or employees) arriving on campus for the Fall 2021 semester while they are COVID-19 positive, all CAU students **with an approved medical or religious exemption must submit a negative a PCR test 5 days before their arrival for move in (on-campus resident students) the first day of classes (commuter students).**

(Q9) What if the exemptions do not apply to me (no medical or religious exemptions) but I still want to be exempted from taking the vaccine?

(A9) At this time, the University is not offering exemptions other than for medical or religious reasons.

(Q10) If I do not take the vaccine and do not have an approved medical or religious exemption, will I be permitted to enroll in classes virtually/online?

(A10) Yes, however, approximately 10% of the courses being offered for the Fall 2021 semester will be offered virtually/online. Students are strongly encouraged to consult their academic advisor regarding the Fall 2021 academic plan.

(Q11) Should the CDC and WHO recommend booster doses, will CAU provide those?

(A11) CAU will continue to serve as a COVID-19 vaccination center. If the CDC makes this recommendation, we will continue to offer vaccinations.

(Q12) Will testing for COVID-19 still be available during the Fall 2021 semester?

(A12) Yes. We will continue to provide COVID-19 testing services. Testing will be required for those who are not fully vaccinated. Student Health Services staff will also test any symptomatic students regardless if they have been vaccinated or not.

(Q13) Will proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test be required for visitors to campus?

(A13) No. The expectation is that all our community members will be fully vaccinated (with the exception of those who are granted exemptions). However, visitors will be required to wear masks/face coverings and practice social distancing at all times while on our campus.

(Q14) Will those individuals who are moving students into the residence halls on the Move-In Days need to provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID test?

(A14) No. However, visitors will be required to wear masks/face coverings and practice social distancing at all times while on our campus. More information to come from the Office of Residence Life.

(Q15) As a student, if COVID-19 vaccines are not available in my area, will I be able to get vaccinated once I arrive on-campus in August?

(A15) We encourage all students to be fully vaccinated before they return to campus in the Fall. To find the closest vaccine anywhere in the U.S., please visit <http://www.vaccines.gov>. In addition, for those in the metropolitan Atlanta area, CAU serves as a point of dispensing (POD) and can provide the Moderna vaccine to any student 18 years of age or older (prior to their arrival on-campus this Fall).

(Q16) What COVID-19 mitigation efforts will be employed in the classroom/labs?

(A16) We will continue to monitor guidance from the CDC and public health authorities about precautions for teaching and learning in a college environment.