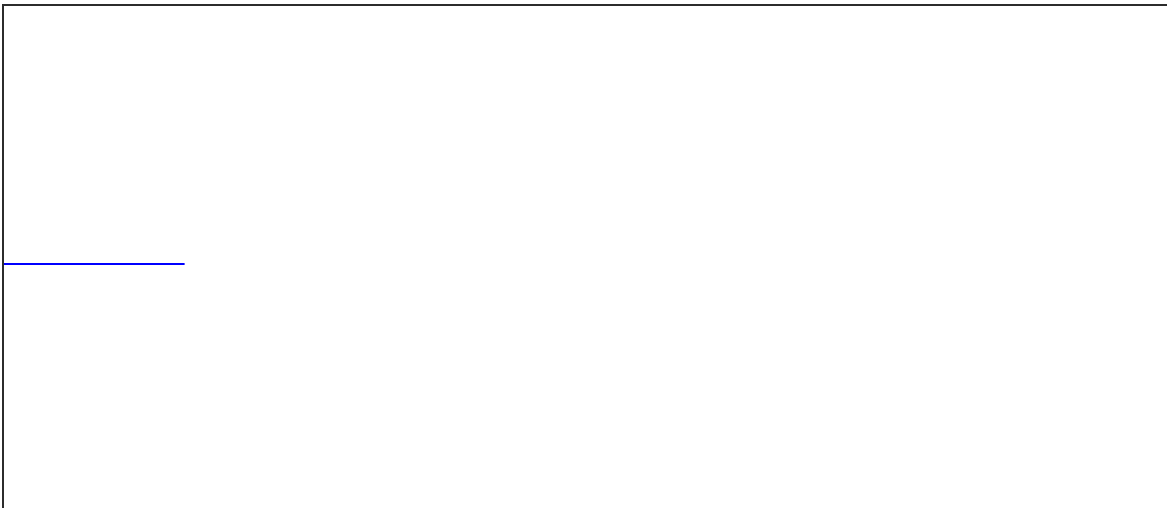


From: [William West](#) on behalf of [Division of Public and Behavioral Health](#)
To: [Joseph P. Filippi](#)
Cc: [Division of Public and Behavioral Health](#)
Subject: FW: HAL Form Submission Notification
Date: Thursday, August 12, 2021 4:03:35 PM

Good afternoon,

Now that the 8/10 meeting is over and done with, will emails like the below still need forwarding to you?

Thank you,



From: hal@admin.nv.gov <hal@admin.nv.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 12, 2021 15:36
To: Division of Public and Behavioral Health <DPBH@health.nv.gov>
Subject: HAL Form Submission Notification

A new form has been submitted.

Not Used 5 - FEEDBACK FORM

To update the form please visit: <https://hal.nv.gov/submitted/61502>User's entries follow

FEEDBACK FORM

Do you have a question, idea or concern about the Division of Public and Behavioral Health that you would like to share with management? Please complete the form below and your

comments will be forwarded to the appropriate staff member for consideration. You may submit your name and ideas or remain anonymous. Your feedback is important to us.

Name: (optional)

Reuel L. Smith

Email: (optional)

Department: (optional)

NOT ANSWERED

Division: (optional)

NOT ANSWERED

Type of feedback:

Concern/Solution

If selected, would you like your idea/comment posted on the website?

» **Yes** (Selected)

No

Does your idea require resources (time, money, employees, tools, other)?

» **Yes** (Selected)

No

If this relates to a specific topic, please specify:

Mandating COVID-19 vaccinations for Nevada System of Higher Education Institutions in Clark County

Title of idea/comment:

Why is there not significantly more urgency in mandating COVID-19 vaccinations for Nevada System of Higher Education Institutions in Clark County?

Description of idea/comment:

College of Southern Nevada President Federico Zaragoza sent an email to faculty and staff on Tuesday (8/10) stating that "Gov. Steve Sisolak has announced that the state Board of Health will consider mandating COVID-19 vaccinations for all Nevada System of Higher Education students at its September 3 meeting ... [and if] the Board of Health approves mandating vaccinations for NSHE students, students would be required to complete the vaccination process and demonstrate proof prior to registration and enrollment as soon as the Spring 2022 semester."

What gravely concerns me is the lack of urgency manifested by the Board of Health in waiting until September 3rd to decide whether or not a vaccination mandate is indeed warranted. Of even greater concern is that the vaccination mandate would not take effect until Spring 2022. The CDC's website currently lists Clark County as having a high level of community transmission, with "high"

being the top level possible for any county. Waiting until Spring 2022 to mandate vaccinations for CSN's Clark County campuses is proverbially like closing the barn door after the horse has run away.

During the past 17 months, the fight to end this pandemic has been described by many sources as a "war on Covid-19", including in a National Library of Medicine cataloged article published in the American Journal of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation (July, 2020) titled "The War on COVID-19 Pandemic: Role of Rehabilitation Professionals and Hospitals." If this analogy has any merit at all — and I think it does — then why is not possible for the state Board of Health and the Nevada System of Higher Education to indeed act with the urgency that any war would demand. On Tuesday, The Washington Post published an article stating that members of the U.S. military "will be required to get the COVID-19 vaccine beginning next month under a plan laid out by the Pentagon Monday and endorsed by President Joe Biden." The article went on to state that President Biden strongly supported this plan to add the Covid vaccine "to the list of required vaccinations for our service members not later than mid-September."

If justification for Covid-19 mandatory vaccination is at least as strong as the Nevada Board of Health's justification for any of the already mandated tetanus, diphtheria, measles, mumps, rubella, and (for some) Neisseria meningitidis vaccinations, then that would seem to be justification enough to decide on mandated campus-wide vaccination with the same "warp speed" used to create the vaccines themselves. While I understand that the burden of incorporating a mandatory vaccination policy into the Fall 2021 semester will fall on NSHE and would undoubtedly involve some thinking "outside the box", I've always believed in the old aphorism that where there is a will, there is a way. For example, it could immediately be made known to fall enrollees that once the vaccine receives final FDA approval (this is currently what the military is waiting on) then anyone who has chosen to enroll for the fall semester in an on-campus class must get the first dose of the approved vaccine during a designated week in the semester and any required second dose during an appropriately timed later week in the semester. Hopefully, each NSHE campus could have such vaccination sites available on that campus during those first and second-dose weeks. The initial Fall 2021 vaccination mandate notice to each student would clearly emphasize that if the required dose sequence isn't obtained, then unless given a well-justified exception from their NSHE school, the student could not return to campus until the vaccine sequence was in fact completed. Of course, one would hope that each NSHE school would also make known to students that it would try to make reasonable accommodations for students who fail to get vaccinated, e.g., by finishing the course as a special transfer to an online section, while also emphasizing that the only promise that could absolutely be made is that no W would appear on the student's record if it was past the semester's "no penalty" withdrawal date, and the student was passing the course at the time that the non-vaccination campus attendance prohibition was made.

Thank you for considering all I've said here,
Reuel Smith
Adjunct Mathematics Instructor
College of Southern Nevada

=====END REPORT=====

Tired of too many email, you can update your form's setting to only receive a daily email.

This communication, including any attachments, may contain confidential information and is intended only for the individual or entity to which it is addressed. Any review, dissemination or copying of this communication by anyone other than the intended recipient is strictly prohibited. If you are not the intended recipient, please contact the sender by reply e-mail and delete all copies of the original message.