

From: [Valerie Lakey](#)
To: [Joseph P. Filippi](#)
Subject: Do not support mandatory vaccines on college campus
Date: Sunday, August 15, 2021 7:28:03 PM

While we all acknowledge COVID-19 and its variants, I believe people are making decisions in fear and forgetting a few facts. It has been determined and publicly stated by all the leading health authorities that the Covid-19 vaccines do not stop infection or transmission. Due to this nature the vaccine does not protect anyone outside of the person receiving the vaccine. As citizens of the United States we have the freedom over our own bodies to decide what we put in them. If a person decides for whatever reason that they wouldn't like to get the vaccine that decision should be honored. Likewise, If a person feels the vaccine will protect them, that person should have the option to be vaccinated. When we make decisions based on fear we forget to afford other people their basic human rights when they don't align with our opinions. This is wrong. College students are in the demographic less affected by the virus and are old enough to take personal responsibility to keep themselves healthy and safe by whatever means align with their beliefs. Every single medical intervention carries some sort of risk- this isn't an exception. We should not make rash decisions based in fear or trying to appease the majority. Minorities are what make our country great. Remember and respect the minority. Also, with it being this close to the start of term- changing policies puts an unnecessary burden on students to scramble to comply or find other arrangements. Peoples lives have been disrupted enough. Let's all take a deep breath and make logical, rational, American decisions. A medical mandate in any other form would never be supported to attend college, why this? Why now?

Sincerely,
Valerie Lakey
Concerned citizen