

From: [Laura Naumann](#)
To: [Joseph P. Filippi](#)
Subject: Support for vaccination mandate for NSHE students
Date: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 2:14:38 PM
Attachments: [image008.png](#)

Dear Nevada State Board of Health Members,

I am a faculty member at Nevada State College and a Nevada resident. **I SUPPORT REQUIRING NSHE STUDENTS TO SUBMIT PROOF OF COVID-19 IMMUNITY under Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 441A.755.**

I strongly urge you to require all NSHE students who want to attend in-person courses be required to receive the COVID-19 vaccine unless they have a medical or religious exemption. Despite massive misinformation campaigns, the suite of COVID-19 vaccines approved with emergency authorization by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration are safe and effective. Requiring vaccines now is critical given the rise of the Delta variant and growing infections among our children.

At Nevada State, our standard classroom holds 40 students, with no room for adequate social distancing. We do not have large lecture halls that we could hold classes in to add more space between students. Even if faculty and staff are mandated to get vaccines, students could spread the virus to each other which could then be spread to other vulnerable groups like our children or the immunocompromised. And until third booster shots roll out, many of my vaccinated colleagues have already experienced breakthrough infections—sometimes with no symptoms—which leads to more infections.

If there is hope to have higher education return to more in-person instruction, vaccine mandates are the only solution. Masks alone (with no social distancing) just isn't going to cut it.

-laura naumann

Laura P. Naumann, PhD (she/her)
Associate Professor of Psychology | DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY & COUNSELING
Past Chair, Faculty Senate | NEVADA STATE COLLEGE
Past Chair, Council of Chairs | NEVADA SYSTEM OF HIGHER EDUCATION