

From: [John C Cushman](#)
To: [Division of Public and Behavioral Health](#)
Subject: COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate
Date: Tuesday, August 3, 2021 11:49:22 AM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[NFA COVID statement 20210728f.pdf](#)

Please forward to the Board of the Nevada Division of Public and Behavioral Health (DPBH) (as I have no means of contacting them directly on your website).

Dear NV Public and Behavioral Health Board Members,

I am writing to you today as front line instructor at UNR who learned this morning that the legal decision to mandate vaccination for NSHE lies with your board. As a faculty member, I am responsible for creating a safe and inclusive learning environment for all of my students in the classroom and laboratory. The one simple act that will go the furthest in allowing me to create such an environment is to have all my students vaccinated to prevent unnecessary disruption of the health and well-being of my students and to limit the spread of the SARS-Cov-2 Delta variant.

Frankly, in the face of the recent surge in the SARS-Cov-2 Delta variant, I am baffled by your failure to mandate vaccinations for all NSHE students, faculty, and staff, especially now that the legality of such mandates have been upheld by recent and legacy court decisions. The lack of full FDA approval of available vaccines should not be a justification for further delay as the US Justice Department has ruled. Therefore, I urge you to put into place such a vaccine mandate as soon as possible so we can return to in-person instruction in the Fall 2021 semester. I am including a letter from the NV faculty alliance in support of my request.

Yours sincerely,
John



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