

# COVID-19 Vaccine Requirement FAQ

## About Vaccine Policy:

### **As an associate of Thompson Health, am I required to be vaccinated?**

No. All associates are required to either be vaccinated against COVID-19 or - if they choose not to be vaccinated - comply with safety protocols, including frequent regular COVID testing, daily symptom tracking, and masking indoors at all times. This requirement reflects our ongoing commitment to the health and safety of every member of our community, which is our top priority.

### **Why is UR Medicine implementing this policy?**

We are committed to the health and safety of every member of our community. We have experienced first-hand the damage that COVID-19 has caused. Because of the safety and effectiveness of the vaccine, we believe vaccinated associates no longer have to follow the rules we are otherwise putting in place.

### **Does the policy apply to me?**

The policy applies to all associates in all positions, including those who may work partly from home or other off-site locations. The testing policy is currently under development and will be shared once final.

### **What happens if I do not get vaccinated?**

All associates who choose not to receive a COVID-19 vaccination will be required to get regular PCR nasal swab testing and undergo daily screening. Both unvaccinated and vaccinated associates must wear a face mask in the hospital, nursing home and other clinical areas. Testing is scheduled to begin the **week of September 20**. Additional details will be shared in the coming weeks.

### **Can I get an exemption from the policy?**

If you are unvaccinated and unable to comply with the safety protocols due to religious or medical reasons, a request form for a special accommodation will soon be made available for you.

### **What if new hires are unvaccinated?**

They can still report to work but must let Associate Health know their vaccination status, take part in regular PCR nasal swab testing, and follow all safety measures such as screening and masking indoors at all times.

### **I am vaccinated. Do I still need to do daily screening and logging upon entry each time I come to work?**

If you have completed the required training in MyPath on COVID self-screening, you do not have to be screened each time you come to work. Your timeclock punch or entry to work is your confirmation that you have no COVID symptoms and are fine to report for work.

If you have not completed the required training in MyPath, you must continue with daily screenings and temperature logging until the training is complete.

## **About Vaccine Reporting:**

### **How do I show proof of my vaccine?**

Vaccinated associates must send proof of vaccination only if they were not vaccinated through Thompson Health. You should scan your COVID-19 Vaccination Record Card or Excelsior Pass as proof and send to Associate Health at [Thompson\\_AssociateHealth@urmc.rochester.edu](mailto:Thompson_AssociateHealth@urmc.rochester.edu).

### **I received my vaccination through Thompson Health. Do I need to provide proof of vaccination?**

No. Associates who received their vaccinations through a Thompson Health vaccination clinic are already in our system.

### **Will leadership have access to my vaccination status?**

Select department leaders will have access to a report outlining which associates require regular COVID testing, daily screening and masking at all times.

## **Receiving the Vaccine:**

### **How can I receive a COVID-19 vaccine?**

You may receive a COVID vaccine at Canandaigua Medical Group (CMG) Pharmacy, located at 335 Parrish Street. They are open Monday – Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Please call ahead at 585.602.0300. Thompson will also offer associate vaccine clinics through Associate Health in the coming weeks. Watch for further details. Additionally, the [Finger Lakes COVID-19 Vaccine Hub](#) has up-to-date information on vaccine distribution sites in the region.

### **What if I need to miss work to get vaccinated?**

Under recent NYS legislation, associates can receive up to four hours of protected paid time off, when time off is necessary to receive the vaccine, without having to use their existing PTO, sick time, or vacation. Our associates generally receive vaccine during their workday.

### **Besides vaccination, what are other ways to keep safe?**

Wear a hospital grade mask over your mouth and nose, don eye protection where appropriate for patient care, maintain social distancing of 6', wash your hands often and use hand sanitizer after touching public surfaces.