



Scott Jenquin <scott.jenquin@ascension.org>

Important Message on COVID-19 Vaccination from President and CEO Joe Impicciche

1 message

Nick Ragone, Chief Marketing and Communications Officer <Nick.Ragone@ascension.org> Tue, Jul 27, 2021 at 3:33 PM
Reply-To: Nick.Ragone@ascension.org
To: scott.jenquin@ascension.org



Important Message on COVID-19 Vaccination from President and CEO Joe Impicciche

As the COVID-19 pandemic continues and new variants of the virus emerge, we continue to focus on ensuring our associates are protected – for the safety of patients and visitors, associates, our families and loved ones, and the community.

Like many health systems across the country, including in many of our markets, we are moving to require our associates to be vaccinated against COVID-19. Ascension conducted a thorough moral and ethical analysis as part of the decision-making process. This decision is rooted in our Mission commitment to leading with quality and safety. As a healthcare provider and as a Catholic ministry, ensuring we have a culture of safety for our associates, patients and communities is foundational to our work.

Tens of thousands of Ascension associates have already been vaccinated with the available vaccines, as have millions of people across the country and the world. But we must do more to overcome this pandemic as we provide safe environments for those we serve.

Ascension will require that all associates be vaccinated against COVID-19, whether or not they provide direct patient care, and whether they work in our sites of care or remotely.

This includes associates employed by subsidiaries and partners; physicians and advanced practice providers, whether employed or independent; and volunteers and vendors entering Ascension facilities.

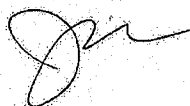
Our timeline for completing the vaccine series and meeting this requirement will be November 12, 2021. This timing is aligned with our annual influenza vaccination requirement and we will follow a similar implementation process.

We are sensitive that some associates have not yet received the COVID-19 vaccine based upon personal concerns. Over the coming weeks, we will be sharing information, engaging in conversations and answering any questions as we work to help overcome hesitancy. We also will develop and share the specific details for the implementation of this new requirement.

In those instances when someone may not be able to get vaccinated due to a medical condition or strongly held religious belief, we will provide a process for requesting an exemption similar to the process we use for the annual influenza vaccine. Requests for exemptions will open August 16 and will be reviewed by members of Associate and Occupational Health, Human Resources, and Mission Integration. In addition, this requirement will be implemented in accordance with collective bargaining agreements (CBAs) reached between Ascension business entities and unions representing our associates.

Our Associate and Occupational Health team, with Human Resources, will be sharing more information about this new requirement, vaccination opportunities and compliance tracking, using our annual flu vaccine program as a guide. You can contact an [AOH team member here](#) and watch for more information via regular communication channels.

Together, we will put this pandemic behind us so we can fully focus on meeting the needs of those who come to us for care. Thank you for your continued dedication to our Mission, to each other and to those we serve.



Joseph R. Impicciche, JD, MHA
President and Chief Executive Officer

[View message in browser](#)

Powered by Audience Engagement