

April 17, 2024

TO: Members of the Board of Trustees

FROM: Kimberly Fearney
Chief Compliance Officer

RE: Suspension of the Mandatory Workforce COVID-19 Vaccination Policy

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Board of Trustees suspend the Mandatory Workforce COVID-19 Vaccination Policy for the Storrs and Regional Campuses.

BACKGROUND

With the release and availability of COVID-19 vaccines, the University adopted the Mandatory Workforce COVID-19 Vaccination Policy in August 2021 to maintain the health and safety of the UConn workforce and community on the Storrs and regional campuses. UConn Health adopted a separate policy for its workforce.

In June 2022, University leadership suspended the enforcement of the Policy, citing the transition of COVID-19 to an endemic disease, no longer requiring employee vaccination or weekly testing. For similar reasons, the Board of Trustees decommissioned the Policy on COVID-19 Immunization Record Requirement for Students on the Storrs and regional campuses in April 2023.

At this time, the Administration recommends the suspension of the Policy, rather than its decommissioning, allowing the University to retain the negotiated agreement with our unclassified unions should COVID-19 return as a public health emergency. If a COVID-19 public health emergency emerges, the University shall return to the Joint Audit and Compliance Committee and Board of Trustees to lift the suspension.

The Joint Audit and Compliance Committee recommended the suspension of the Policy at their meeting on December 21, 2023.