



Samaritan Health Center Vaccination Policy

The health and well-being of our patients, staff, volunteers, their families, and the entire community are of utmost importance to Samaritan Health Center. Samaritan Health Center has taken numerous measures to help keep our patients, staff, volunteers, their families, and the entire community as safe as possible. Since September 30, 2021 proof of COVID vaccination has been a condition of employment or volunteer service at Samaritan Health Center. The transmission and outbreaks of communicable diseases such as COVID-19 and influenza are well documented. Vaccination is one of the strongest tools we can use to achieve these goals of keeping our community safe.

Therefore, Samaritan Health Center now requires all onsite personnel (including staff, volunteers, interns, and learners) to be vaccinated against influenza in addition to COVID-19 unless they have an approved religious or medical exemption. This policy will be administered in compliance with all applicable laws and is based on guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and local and state health authorities, and is in keeping with other health care institutions in our local community.

- Proof of completion of the “primary series” or booster of COVID vaccination must be provided before the first shift onsite.
- By February 1, 2024, and by December 1st annually in succeeding years starting in fall 2024, all onsite personnel must provide proof of influenza vaccination via an electronic or paper copy of the vaccination or via a letter from a health care provider.
- Exemptions from this policy will be permitted for religious or medical reasons; requests for exemption and associated documentation are due by February 1, 2024 for current personnel or prior to first shift of new members of the Samaritan Health Center team.
 - Those seeking religious exemption will be required to submit documentation supporting the rationale for their exemption request.
 - Those seeking a medical exemption must submit a letter from a health care provider explaining the rationale for the exemption.
 - Individuals who have documented proof of COVID-19 infection within 90 days of first shift can be granted a short-term 90-day medical exemption upon request.
- Employees who have not provided influenza vaccination proof or requested exemption by February 1 will be deemed as having resigned, effective immediately.
- Volunteers who have not provided influenza vaccination proof or requested exemption by February 1 will be excused from service at Samaritan Health Center.

Samaritan Health Center’s masking policy remains in effect in clinical settings– i.e., masks are to be worn at all times, except when working in a private office or conference room. This policy may be amended with updated CDC vaccination guidelines.