

ASSEMBLY, No. 6022

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED NOVEMBER 15, 2021

Sponsored by:
Assemblyman HERB CONAWAY, JR.
District 7 (Burlington)

SYNOPSIS

Requires students, staff, and others present at institutions of higher education to receive COVID-19 vaccine.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.



1 **AN ACT** concerning student vaccinations and supplementing Title
2 18A of the New Jersey Statutes.

3
4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*

6
7 1. a. The Commissioner of Health shall require vaccination
8 against coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) as a condition of in-
9 person enrollment in, attendance of classes or activities at,
10 employment by, or the provision of services at or through, a public
11 or private institution of higher education in this State.

12 b. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, an institution of
13 higher education shall not enroll or retain on an in-person basis any
14 student, or employ, retain, or utilize the services of any other
15 individual on an in-person basis, who has not submitted acceptable
16 evidence of the student's or other individual's vaccination against
17 COVID-19, as provided by regulation of the Commissioner of
18 Health.

19 c. The Commissioner of Health shall require each institution of
20 higher education in this State to offer the COVID-19 vaccination to
21 its students, staff, employees, and in-person contracted workers
22 through the institution's student health services program or through
23 a contractual agreement with a community health care provider.

24 d. A student or other individual shall not be required to receive
25 a vaccination against COVID-19 under this section if the student or
26 other individual, or the student or other individual's parent or
27 guardian in the case of a student or other individual who is younger
28 than 18 years of age, submits to the institution of higher education:

29 (1) a written statement issued by a licensed physician indicating
30 that the COVID-19 vaccine is medically contraindicated for a
31 specific period of time and the reasons for the medical
32 contraindication, which shall be valid medical reasons as
33 determined by regulation of the Commissioner of Health. A
34 statement that meets the requirements of this paragraph shall
35 exempt the student or other individual from the vaccination
36 requirements of this section for the stated period of time; or

37 (2) a written statement explaining how the administration of the
38 vaccine conflicts with the bona fide religious tenets or practices of
39 the student or other individual, or the parent or guardian of the
40 student or other individual, as appropriate; except that a general
41 philosophical or moral objection to the vaccination shall not be
42 sufficient for an exemption on religious grounds.

43 e. No person shall be required to receive a vaccination against
44 COVID-19 under this section if the person will have no in-person
45 presence on the premises of an institution of higher education.

46
47 2. The Commissioner of Health shall adopt rules and
48 regulations pursuant to the "Administrative Procedure Act,"

1 P.L.1968, c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), as shall be necessary to
2 implement the provisions of this act.

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4 3. This act shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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9 This bill requires vaccination against coronavirus disease 2019
10 (COVID-19) as a condition of in-person enrollment in, attendance
11 of classes or activities at, employment by, or the provision of
12 services at or through, a public or private institution of higher
13 education in this State. Commence with the start of the 2021-2022
14 school year, institutions of higher education will be prohibited from
15 enrolling or retaining on an in-person basis any student, or
16 employing, retaining, or utilizing the services of any other
17 individual on an in-person basis, who has not submitted acceptable
18 evidence of vaccination against COVID-19.

19 Each institution of higher education in New Jersey will be
20 required to offer the COVID-19 vaccination to its students, staff,
21 employees, and in-person contracted workers through the
22 institution's student health services program or through a
23 contractual agreement with a community health care provider.

24 A student or other individual may be granted an exemption from
25 the COVID-19 vaccination requirements set forth in the bill if the
26 student or other individual submits:

27 1) a written statement issued by a licensed physician indicating
28 that the COVID-19 vaccine is medically contraindicated for a
29 specific period of time and the reasons for the medical
30 contraindication, which are to be valid medical reasons as
31 established by the Commissioner of Health. The medical
32 exemption will be valid for the period of time indicated in the
33 physician's written statement; or

34 2) a written statement explaining how the administration of the
35 vaccine conflicts with the bona fide religious tenets or practices of
36 the student or other individual, or the student's or individual's
37 parent or guardian, as appropriate; except that a general
38 philosophical or moral objection to the vaccination will not be
39 sufficient for an exemption on religious grounds.

40 No person will be required to receive a vaccination against
41 COVID-19 under the bill if the person will have no in-person
42 presence on the premises of an institution of higher education.