

From: [Vice-Chancellor's Office](#)
Subject: LU COVID-19 Update – Lincoln University Discontinues its Vaccine Mandate
Date: Thursday, 28 April 2022 4:15:31 pm

Tena koutou katoa,

Following a detailed review of the University's current vaccine mandate, a decision has been made to discontinue mandatory COVID-19 vaccinations as a requirement for all students, staff, contractors, tenants and visitors to access campus, including all other university-owned farms and properties.

This means that from today, staff, students, tenants, contractors and visitors will no longer be required to have a valid My Vaccine Pass to access campus or take part in face-to-face University activities.

I would like to thank all staff, students, tenants and contractors who provided their feedback to inform this decision.

The review considered the changing risk of the pandemic in our environment, including health and safety assessments on campus and the high vaccination rates amongst our staff and students. The fact that mandates are no longer viewed by the Government as a suitable first response for managing COVID-19 in organisations, also influenced our decision together with the justification for requiring a vaccination mandate is when the risk of contracting and transmitting COVID-19 at work is higher than it is in the community.

[You are strongly encouraged to wear a mask indoors on campus](#)

Specific health and safety measures aimed at reducing transmission remain in place on campus. Everyone has a role they can play here and I strongly encourage you to continue to wear a mask when indoors on campus, especially when physical distancing is difficult.

[Support is available](#)

I understand that some staff might be anxious about returning to campus. Support is available and if you are feeling unsure I encourage you to discuss your work arrangements with your manager, Dean, Director or HR Business Partner or email any questions or concerns to hs@lincoln.ac.nz.

[If you are self-isolating](#)

A reminder to notify the University via the COVID-19 Case/Close Contact form if you are a Household Close Contact or a confirmed Case. Ensure you notify your manager that you are required to self-isolate, and determine whether you can continue to work from home (as a household close contact) or require sick leave (as a positive case, or primary carer for a positive case). If you require sick leave please log it as COVID-19 Leave when entering it in MyHR.

It has been a challenging start to the year, and I am looking forward to having staff and students back on campus, and a return to a safe yet engaging and vibrant campus experience.

Nga mihi

Professor Grant Edwards

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