

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

December 10, 2021

Dear UNE Community,

I am writing with the important update that the University will require COVID-19 booster vaccines for all students in our on-campus programs and for all employees.

Data show the booster dose provides much greater protection over the standard vaccine regimen against infection with both the Delta and Omicron variants of the virus and, more importantly, against severe disease. This increased protection is critical in order to maintain the safety we continue to enjoy within our community as positive cases in Maine continue to grow.

We recognize that with the high demand for vaccines, our community may need time to meet this requirement. The deadline for receiving the booster will, therefore, be determined early in the new year. In the meantime, I encourage you to get your booster shot just as soon as you are eligible. This is the most effective way to protect the health and safety of the UNE community. I know many of you have already received your booster, including hundreds at our own clinics on the Biddeford and Portland campuses. I extend a huge thank you to Student Health Services and the Maine Area Health Education Center in the Center for Excellence in Public Health for their tireless work in vaccinating our community.

Although we hope to run additional vaccine clinics in the new year, we cannot rely on the availability of vaccine. I, therefore, urge you to seek a booster in your local community (for example, through a pharmacy or your primary care provider) rather than waiting for a UNE clinic.

Students who have received their boosters should upload the information through the Student Health portal: une.medicatconnect.com.

Employees should follow the same process used for submitting their original vaccine cards. Benefit eligible employees should upload a copy/picture of their updated vaccine card into PeopleAdmin: une.peopleadmin.com/hr.

Non-benefit eligible employees (adjuncts, temps) should submit their updated vaccine card to the same person whom they submitted their original card to within their college or unit.

Thank you for your continued efforts to stay healthy and protect our community, and thank you again to the many employee and student volunteers working to vaccinate the UNE community at our own clinics and Mainers at vaccination sites around the state.

Sincerely,

James D. Herbert President