Messiah’s “best shot” for getting our campus life back to normal is for our students and employees to get fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Messiah’s “community immunity” is defined as 70% vaccination rate for students and employees.

Although cases of COVID-19 in the United States had been on the decline since April 13, daily new cases have increased 9% since June 21, 2021 (CDC). While we recognize that not everyone can be vaccinated against COVID-19, Messiah University views vaccination as our best way to assure community health and to avoid the kinds of disruptions seen across the country from COVID-19 illness or outbreaks.

Therefore, please note the following:

1. *Please* help us track our community immunity by uploading your vaccination status *today* via the upload button on the Falcon Health Check-In.

2. Messiah University has the Moderna vaccine available for free in the Engle Center. If you would like to sign up for a Moderna COVID19 vaccine, please email Linda Weaver: ljweaver@messiah.edu.

3. Time spent getting the vaccine is considered work time.

4. Much like the shingles vaccine, some people experience symptoms the day after their second dose. All employees may have additional sick time, if needed, after getting the vaccine (1st and/or 2nd dose). Vaccination cards must be uploaded to qualify. Contact HR for assistance in applying the additional time to your account.

We greatly appreciate our students and employees who have already been vaccinated for COVID-19, and we continue to encourage as many as possible to continue to do so. Widespread vaccination of our campus community provides the best opportunity for us to return Messiah to regular pre-pandemic operations, and to make university life feel much more like it is supposed to be for everyone.