



January 24, 2025

TO: President Kirk Schulz
SUBJECT: Faculty Senate Academic Rule 60 MOU
SUBMITTED BY: Tracy Klein, Faculty Senate Chair

Background

On October 4, 2024, the Faculty Senate Executive Committee received the following request via a memorandum sent from your office: *We are requesting a temporary hold on Academic Policy 60 for the non-residential campuses through January of 2025.*

A further request read: *I am seeking this temporary hold to allow time for discussions with Faculty Senate Leadership, the Chancellors, and the Office of Risk Management to develop a long-term, mutually agreeable solution to vaccination requirements for non-residential campuses.*

This request has been addressed at the following Senate meetings:

- October 10, 2024, Senate Steering Committee (Direction)
- October 24, 2024, Senate Steering Committee (Review of public health and risk management implications)
- October 31, 2024, Senate Meeting (Discussion item)
- November 14, 2024, Senate Meeting (Action item and vote)
- December 5, 2024, Senate Meeting (Action item and vote)
- January 9, 2025, Senate Steering Committee (Direction)
- January 23, 2025, Senate Steering Committee (Direction)

Materials gained from the above actions can publicly found in the Senate agenda and attachments from October 31, November 14 and December 5, 2024.

Purpose

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) specifies conditions to mitigate the situation surrounding compliance with Academic Rule 60 developed in consultation with the Faculty Senate Steering Committee.

Agreement

It is mutually agreed that:

- The Executive Director of Cougar Health in consultation with the Medical Director of Cougar Health Services will facilitate and draft guidance for student vaccination which is evidence based and consistent with current state of Washington and American College Health Association public health recommendations;
- The Executive Director of Cougar Health in consultation with the Medical Director of Cougar Health Services will specify and facilitate the mechanisms by which vaccines may be verified and documented consistent with best practices;



- This guidance will be located in EP 43 included by and referenced in AP 60 to ensure consistent and legally defensible registration requirements and catalogue publication across Washington State University;
- The list of required vaccinations will be updated for Fall 2026 together with any proposed policy updates; the Senate will be notified of updates and proposed policy changes no later than March 15, 2025, to facilitate campus based implementation;
- Campus chancellors shall designate vaccination liaisons to interact with county health offices to assist with EP 43 requirements. Campus based implementation plans will incorporate coordination with county health to provide resources as needed;
- The EP 43 committee will be charged with implementation of EP 43 and shall include representation from all campuses with information regarding the committee membership and its charge publicly posted and available;
- Washington State University will dedicate resources specific to analyzing and updating the current computer-based support, website, and screening and registration process by which students affirm vaccination status;
- Training of academic advisors in vaccination recommendations, confirmation and implementation shall be developed and employed by no later than April 1, 2025;
- The Faculty Senate shall facilitate discussion and analysis of faculty vaccination status with WSU administration and faculty representatives;
- The Faculty Senate will receive monthly updates on vaccination compliance and implementation by Cougar Health Services or their delegate at their regularly scheduled public meetings starting on January 16, 2025.

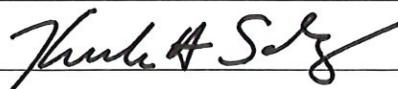
Rationale:

The rationale for the above requests has been developed in consultation with the Faculty Senate Executive and Steering Committees, representatives of WSU Risk Management, and Dr Sunday Henry MD, Interim Executive Director and Medical Director of Cougar Health Services. Chancellor input has been considered and discussed in two Senate meetings which were publicly provided. Additional meetings were held with campus faculty organizations, and campus-based staff on non-Pullman campuses. Public health testimony was provided to the Senate by the Washington State Department of Health, Clark County Public Health, Whitman County Public Health, Dr. Frank James MD and Dr Janessa Graves MPH, PhD. The rationale for requiring vaccination for college age students was unequivocally supported by public health experts, however, they did vary in their opinions on which vaccines.

Outcome:

The outcome of this MOU will be to resolve discrepancies in campus-based vaccine implementation, explore mechanisms for continued compliance, and provide a safe and healthy workplace for the Washington State University community.

Signature: Tracy Klein, PhD, ARNP Digitally signed by Tracy Klein, PhD, ARNP Date: 2025.01.24 12:37:15 -08'00' Date: 1/24/25

Signature:  Date: 1/28/2025