
Ref: ORMC 001/22

CIRCULAR 1

12 January 2022

NUS Staff and Students

COVID-19: UPDATE ON VACCINATION-DIFFERENTIATED SAFE MANAGEMENT MEASURES (VDS)

With the COVID-19 Omicron variant fast becoming the dominant variant, there is a need to re-evaluate our control measures, so as to protect the health and well-being of the NUS community. Updates and changes since the last circular ([Circular 40/2021](#)) are highlighted in yellow for ease of reference.

A. FET ART Self-Test Programme

1. **The FET ART Self-Test programme will continue until further notice, in accordance with the current practice outlined in [Circular 36/2021](#)** (unless otherwise stated below). We will review the need to continue with the FET programme in mid-February 2022.

B. VDS for Staff (Updates)

2. Unvaccinated staff who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days (from the date of first positive PCR test result) are exempted from Pre-Event Testing (PET) requirement (with effect from 1 January 2022) and FET ART self-test (**180 days exemption**).

Staff must submit the MOH Isolation Order to Mr Yam Guan Shyh for exemption from the PET and FET requirements. **After the 180 days exemption, they will be considered as unvaccinated individuals if they remain unvaccinated.**

3. **Non-NUS employees who work on campus (e.g. independent contractors, vendors) and visitors to the campus for work-related events (e.g. meetings)** will be subject to the same VDS applicable to NUS staff.
4. **Work-related events of up to 50 participants are permitted subject to Safe Management Measures (SMMs) in Para 6e and Para 6f in this [MOM advisory](#).**
5. Please refer to [Circular 40/2021](#) for the rest of the VDS for Staff which remain with no changes.

C. VDS for Students on Internship

No change from [Circular 40/2021](#)

D. VDS for Undergraduate Students and Students on Concurrent Degree Programmes (Pre-Employment Training Students)

6. Students who are fully vaccinated, medically ineligible for vaccination, or recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days will be considered to have met the VDS requirements. They are allowed to return to campus to take part in teaching, learning and other activities.
- a. Students who are fully vaccinated must have a valid negative FET result uploaded into uNivUS before returning to campus. The FET test result is valid for seven days.
[No change from current practice]
 - b. Students who are partially vaccinated must have a valid negative FET result uploaded into uNivUS before returning to campus. The FET result is valid for four days. **Partially vaccinated students can continue to draw the FET kits from NUS free-of-charge up to 28 February 2022. After this date, those who did not complete the full course of vaccination will be considered as unvaccinated (Please refer to Para 6d below).**
 - c. Students who are medically ineligible (MI) for vaccination¹ may seek medical certification from a doctor at UHC or any medical clinic at their own cost. They are to update their medical status in uNivUS. Their MI status will expire upon reaching the date indicated by the doctor or when they have fully completed their vaccination. MI students can continue to draw the FET test kits from NUS free-of-charge. The FET test result is valid for four days.
[No change from current practice]
 - d. Unvaccinated students must have a valid negative FET result uploaded into uNivUS before returning to campus. The FET test result is valid for four days. **They must bear the full cost of the FET ART kits from 1 February 2022 onwards.**
 - e. Unvaccinated students who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days (from the date of the first PCR positive test result), however, can apply for the **180-day (up from 90 days) exemption** from the FET self-test programme. After the exemption period, if they have not received one dose of the Singapore government-approved WHO EUL vaccine, they will be considered as unvaccinated.

E. VDS for Full-time, Part-time Masters, PhD Students, and all other Continuing Education and Training (CET)² Students

7. From 1 February 2022 onwards, students who are fully vaccinated, medically ineligible for vaccination or recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days will be allowed on campus.

¹ Staff and students must submit the MI medical certification to Mr Yam Guan Shyh, ORMC for updating of records in uNivUS.

² Full-time, part-time graduate students, including students on executive programmes and short courses.

- a. Students who are fully vaccinated must have a valid negative FET result uploaded into uNivUS before returning to campus. The FET test result is valid for seven days.

[No change from current practice]

- b. Students who are partially vaccinated are not allowed on campus from 1 February 2022 onwards.

* Grace Period – Between now and 31 January 2022, they are allowed on campus if they have a valid negative FET result uploaded into uNivUS before returning to campus. The FET result is valid for four days. Partially vaccinated students can continue to draw the FET kits from NUS free-of-charge up to 31 January 2022. After this date, those who did not complete the full course of vaccination will be considered as unvaccinated.

- c. Students who are Medically Ineligible (MI) for vaccination¹ may seek medical certification from a doctor at UHC or any medical clinic at their own cost. They are to update their medical status in uNivUS. Their MI status will expire upon reaching the date indicated by the doctor or when they have fully completed their vaccination. MI students can continue to draw the FET test kits from NUS free-of-charge. The FET test result is valid for four days.

[No change from current practice]

- d. Students who are unvaccinated are not allowed on campus from 1 February 2022 onwards. However, unvaccinated students who are hostel residents are permitted to stay in their respective hostels. They will not be permitted to attend lectures, conduct on-campus research or participate in any on-campus activities.

- e. Unvaccinated students who have recovered from COVID-19 in the last 180 days (from the date of the first PCR positive test result), however, can apply for the 180-day exemption from the FET self-test programme. After the exemption period, if they have not received one dose of the Singapore government-approved WHO EUL vaccine, they will be considered as unvaccinated.

8. The above mentioned VDS requirements with effect from 1 February 2022 are summarised in the table below:

Group	Pre-Employment Training Students	CET Students	Staff	Visitors
Fully vaccinated	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unvaccinated or Partially vaccinated	✓	X	X	X
Medically ineligible	✓	✓	✓	✓
Unvaccinated, but recovered from COVID in the last 180 days	✓	✓	✓	✓

- ✓ Allowed on campus
 X Not allowed on campus

F. Reminder to Update Vaccination Status in uNivUS

9. Staff and students are reminded to declare their vaccination status in uNivUS, if they have not already done so. Otherwise, they will be regarded as unvaccinated. Please refer to [Circular 39/2021](#) for instructions on how to update vaccination status.

G. Other Safe Management Measures

10. Additional Restriction of Services for Non-Compliance – Please be reminded that unvaccinated staff who are on campus will have their email access restricted for the whole day (until 2359 hours). **It will not be restored even if they leave campus.**

For students, their WiFi access to the internet and other campus services will similarly be restricted.

11. Please refer to the [Summary of NUS SMMs](#) for other prevailing SMMs.

If you have further questions, please check with the management office of your faculty, school or department, or email COVID-19@nus.edu.sg.

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Stay updated:

- NUS circulars, FAQs, emergency contact numbers, as well as useful links on the COVID-19 situation are available at emergency.nus.edu.sg.
- The latest NUS-related news, research and commentaries on COVID-19 are available [here](#).
- Please refer to the [Ministry of Health](#) for the latest information on the COVID-19 situation in Singapore.