

MEDICAL STUDENT VACCINE AMENDMENTS

2024 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

Chief Sponsor: Kera Birkeland

Senate Sponsor: Wayne A. Harper

LONG TITLE

General Description:

This bill amends provisions related to vaccination and face covering requirements for medical students.

Highlighted Provisions:

This bill:

► repeals an exception for medical students related to vaccination and face covering requirements implemented by an institution of higher education.

Money Appropriated in this Bill:

None

Other Special Clauses:

None

Utah Code Sections Affected:

AMENDS:

53B-2-113, as last amended by Laws of Utah 2021, First Special Session, Chapter 7

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the state of Utah:

Section 1. Section **53B-2-113** is amended to read:

53B-2-113. Vaccination requirements -- Exemptions -- Face covering requirements.

(1) An institution of higher education described in Section **53B-2-101** may not require



28 proof of vaccination as a condition for enrollment or attendance unless the institution allows
29 for the following exemptions:

30 (a) a medical exemption if the student provides to the institution a statement that the
31 claimed exemption is for a medical reason; and

32 (b) a personal exemption if the student provides to the institution a statement that the
33 claimed exemption is for a personal or religious belief.

34 (2) An institution that offers both remote and in-person learning options may not deny
35 a student who is exempt from a requirement to receive a vaccine under Subsection (1) to
36 participate in an in-person learning option based upon the student's vaccination status.

37 (3) (a) For purposes of this Subsection (3), "face covering" means the same as that term
38 is defined in Section [53G-9-210](#).

39 (b) An institution of higher education described in Section [53B-2-101](#) may not require
40 an individual to wear a face covering to attend or participate in in-person instruction,
41 institution-sponsored athletics, institution-sponsored extracurricular activities, in dormitories,
42 or in any other place on a campus of an institution within the system of higher education at any
43 time after the end of the spring semester in 2021.

44 [~~(4) Subsections (1), (2), and (3) do not apply to a student studying in a medical setting
45 at an institution of higher education.~~]

46 [(5)] (4) Nothing in this section restricts a state or local health department from acting
47 under applicable law to contain the spread of an infectious disease.

48 Section 2. **Effective date.**

49 This bill takes effect on May 1, 2024.