

As the deans of the University's schools, colleges, and libraries, and directors of research institutes, we write in strong support of the University of Michigan's decision to require COVID-19 vaccination for all U-M students, faculty and staff, with appropriate exemptions for medical and religious reasons.

The decision will help keep our University community safe and it's the best way to get us back to our full teaching, research, service, and public engagement missions--doing the most we can for our students and for the broader public good.

Vaccines are essential not only because they protect the health of individuals but also because they are a proven way to reduce the spread of infectious diseases across our community. Already, most students, faculty, and staff have reported that they are vaccinated.

The vaccines developed against COVID are safe and effective. The benefits of COVID vaccination to individuals and to our community far outweigh any risks. We support the University's vaccination policy wholeheartedly, and urge everyone for whom it is medically safe to get vaccinated as soon as possible.

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