Cardinal Family,

As we near the end of 2021, I want to thank each of you for your efforts to ensure a safe campus and a successful fall semester. More than 91 percent of you have been vaccinated to protect yourself, your loved ones and our community, playing key roles in fighting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Still, we are being required by the federal government to do even more.

On Sept. 9, 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order 14042, Ensuring Adequate COVID Safety Protocols for Federal Contractors. This order directed certain actions, including vaccination against COVID-19, to be taken by parties that contract with the federal government. Due to multiple federal contracts and agreements our university depends on for operation, the University of Louisville, along with many other
universities across the country, is subject to this federal regulation.

A small number of staff, faculty and student employees still have not been vaccinated. We currently are reviewing the list to determine who among this group is required to be vaccinated under the federal directive. Those faculty, staff and student employees will be contacted directly and must have been fully vaccinated or have an updated and approved medical or religious exemption on file no later than Jan. 18, 2022. Those who fail to comply with the vaccination mandate or who fail to submit their updated medical or religious exemption will be subject to disciplinary action that may include unpaid leave and separation from the university.

Click here for more information on how you can get vaccinated on campus. An updated exemption form will be available on the COVID website soon. All employees who are granted an exemption will still be required to get tested regularly.

The federal regulation also stipulates that the university will continue to adhere to applicable mask and/or social distancing policies in accordance with Centers for Disease Control guidance. That guidance is
provided [here](#).

Our campuses remain among the safest places in our county and the Commonwealth thanks to your efforts to protect our UofL family. Vaccines continue to be safe, effective and the best tool in fighting this pandemic and keeping our community safe; complying with this mandate furthers our commitment to that end.

Thank you for all you do for the university and our community. And best wishes as we finish a successful fall semester.

*Neeli*

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