XAVIER UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA



Dr. Reynold Verret *President*

April 8, 2021

Dear Students,

Your vigilance during this past year has allowed Xavier to open its doors and remain open by keeping our COVID-19 infection rates very low. To continue our shared commitment to each other, we are requiring that all students receive their Coronavirus vaccines before returning for the Fall 2021 semester. **Proof of vaccination will be required for all students planning to attend this fall.**

Xavier has partnered with many health providers to make vaccines available to you. This includes DePaul Community Health Center and Tulane University Medical Center. I am happy to announce that our efforts to make vaccines as readily accessible to you and our entire community continue with the first of many vaccination events with Ochsner starting this Friday, April 9, 2021. The vaccine being given is the Pfizer vaccine. The Second Dose will be on April 30th on campus. The events above are by appointment only. Please call 844-888-2772 or visit MyOchsner to schedule.

The University will be *officially* updating its Immunization Requirements for Students to include the COVID-19 vaccine. This health policy update means that, with limited exceptions, all students planning to attend in the Fall 2021 semester must be fully vaccinated unless granted a limited exception for documented medical or religious reasons.

The benefits of COVID-19 vaccination include prevention of serious illness, hospitalization, and death from the virus. The vaccine also prevents your transmitting the virus to your loved ones. Broad immunization is critical to help stop the current pandemic and to protect our University community. Benefits specific to the Xavier community include:

- An expedited return to normal operations
- Expanded face-to-face course offerings
- More student life experiences
- Opportunities for a wider range of events and activities offered at our campus
- More normalized pre-pandemic dining and recreation opportunities
- Greater opportunities for personal interactions between faculty, students, and staff that contribute significantly to your success

Xavier has been a leader in providing a safe campus for our community to continue to learn while remaining healthy and safe. The need to stay the course has never been more necessary. An effective vaccination program will make our community safer for all.

I urge you to take advantage of the vaccines now available on campus prior to the close of the 2021 Spring semester. You will return to your homes healthier, safer, and with the ability to protect your most vulnerable family members. If you have family in the vicinity, we encourage you to register them for the vaccines here on campus and affirm their attendance. You are called as a Xavierite to lead and serve those around you.

With our commitment to each other and those around us, I look forward to seeing you in person for the Fall 2021 semester.

Reynold Verret President

Xavier University of Louisiana