

## WashU Med COVID-19 Update

Jan. 13, 2022

Information for School of Medicine faculty, staff and students

### Our numbers

#### COVID-19 hospitalizations

Barnes-Jewish Hospital

239 inpatients confirmed

St. Louis Children's Hospital

30 inpatients confirmed

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#### WashU Med

Active cases

182 employees

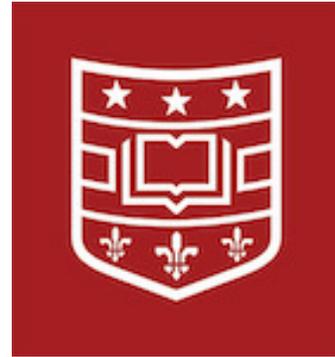
15 students

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### Key announcements

## Work-related travel restricted for health-care workers

As COVID-19 hospital admissions continue to grow and many clinical faculty, trainees and staff are simultaneously impacted by COVID-19 personally, WashU Med has made the difficult decision to restrict all work-related travel for health-care workers to ensure we can adequately care for our patients. Health-care workers are defined as individuals who work in a clinic or hospital and CANNOT work entirely remotely.



This restriction does not apply to personal travel, nor does it apply to non-health-care workers. Personal travel restrictions for health-care workers are distributed daily from the WashU Faculty Practice Plan (FPP) and currently are at the yellow level, which means health-care workers must be able to return to St. Louis within 24 hours. If you have a unique circumstance, please discuss it with your department or division head.

Please note that some departments are appropriately requiring more stringent limitations on personal travel to meet the pressing clinical needs. Those more stringent requirements supersede the FPP status.

"We understand and know how exhausting the pandemic and this new surge have been for all of us; that is why we have waited as long as possible before resorting to this decision," said Eva Aagaard, MD, interim director of Occupational Health. "Thank you for your truly remarkable resilience and dedication to our shared purpose in caring for neighbors and our communities."

## Pediatric vaccine clinic to be held Monday

St. Louis Children's Hospital and Washington University Physicians will host a pediatric vaccine clinic on Monday, Jan. 17 from 9 a.m.

– 3 p.m. at the [Children's Specialty Care Center – South County](#). The clinic will offer

first, second, third and booster doses for Missouri and Illinois residents. Appointments

are required for children ages 5-11. A limited number of walk-in slots for ages 12-17 will be available. Patients under 18 must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian.



Parents/guardians can [make an appointment online](#). Additional vaccine resources, including vaccination locations, can be found at [vaccinatestl.org](#) or [vaccines.gov](#).

In a St. Louis Metropolitan Pandemic Task Force [briefing](#) held Tuesday, WashU Med pediatrician Jason Newland, MD, said the best way to keep children safe is to get them vaccinated, get the people around them vaccinated and keep up mitigation efforts.

## Reminder: Boosters available on the Danforth Campus for all WashU employees

Occupational Health is hosting several clinics to provide the Pfizer/BioNTech booster on the Danforth Campus for all WashU faculty, staff and trainees. Clinics will be held Jan. 10-14, Jan. 31, Feb. 1-4 and Feb. 7-11 from 8:15 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the Danforth Athletic Complex lobby. You are required to [make an appointment online](#).

Please park in the [Snow Garage \(PDF\)](#) on levels 3 and 4; parking validation is provided. Make sure to complete your [on-campus health screening](#), wear a mask and bring your employee ID.

Note: Individuals who have already been approved for a COVID-19 vaccine exemption are not expected to receive a booster or request an additional exemption.

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# Other news

[Podcast: Hospitalized patients with COVID reach record levels](#) (WashU Med News, Jan. 13, 2022)

WashU Med infectious diseases physicians Hilary Babcock, MD, and Jason Newland, MD, discuss omicron's impact on the health-care system and the continued importance of vaccinations, avoiding crowds and wearing masks in public to slow the spread of the virus.

[Doctors warn that flu season may be ticking up, as St. Louis hospitals again report record COVID-19 cases](#) (St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Jan. 10, 2022)

WashU Med infectious diseases physician Steve Lawrence, MD, urges area residents to get their flu shots because with the region's hospitals already stretched thin due to COVID-19, any additional stress — from flu or other health issues — is "certainly unwelcome."

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## Resources

- [MO/Notify](#) exposure notifications
- [Online screening tool](#)
- Exposure & illness hotline: [314-362-5056](#)
- Work-life support/Employee Assistance Program (24/7): [844-365-4587](#)
- [BJC COVID-19 policies & procedures](#)
- [Washington University Physicians COVID-19 policies & procedures](#)
- [Medical Campus policies & updates](#)

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