

From: [Office of the Provost](#)
To: AA-RESPONSE-L@LISTSERV.JMU.EDU
Subject: Academic Affairs Bulletin, 1/22/2021
Date: Friday, January 22, 2021 11:28:58 AM

Dear Colleagues,

Below are important updates for January 22, 2021.

- Virginia Secretary of Education Atif Qarni has asked that the university, on behalf of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs and the state Adjutant General, share [this letter](#) regarding the Virginia National Guard's call to active duty and potential impact on students in the Guard. As stated in the Faculty Handbook section [III.A.17. Attendance](#), “Faculty must make appropriate accommodations for students who are called to military service or jury duty.”
- When [attendance rosters are available for faculty verification](#), you must report if students attended class, regardless of if they are deployed. To remain in compliance, follow these steps:
 - If a deployed student never attends class by the time the attendance verification roster is submitted, mark them as never attended. Their aid will be canceled.
 - If/when the student returns and begin attending class, you must contact the financial aid office at finaid_compliance@jmu.edu to confirm their attendance. Financial Aid will manually change the roster and reinstate any eligible aid at the time.
- We’ve updated the [Student FAQs](#) and [Faculty FAQs](#) with responses specific to Spring 2021. These updates address the most frequent questions we’ve heard from faculty and student, so please refer to them for details on the academic calendar, accommodations, class recordings, and learning and teaching resources.
- The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) is responsible for acquiring and distributing COVID-19 vaccine. The University Health Center (UHC) is not a vaccination site. UHC does not have direct access to the COVID-19 vaccine. JMU is actively working and communicating with the Virginia Department of Health in planning for the rollout of COVID-19 vaccinations in the Central Shenandoah Health District.

To see updated information, including local distribution phase status and up-to-date vaccination efforts, visit the [Central Shenandoah Health District website](#).

The [Virginia Department of Health website](#) is a great resource. On this site, you can find out which phase Virginia counties are in and what phase you are eligible for, and view a comprehensive list of frequently asked questions.

See <https://www.jmu.edu/stop-the-spread/academic-affairs/index.shtml> for the latest information.

Best wishes,

Heather

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