Dear Colleagues,

I am writing to alert you to another important step the CSU is taking toward the safe repopulation of the Chancellor’s Office and our 23 campuses across the state.

To help ensure the health and well-being of our students, employees, guests and all members of our campus communities, today the CSU is joining the University of California to announce that all students and employees accessing university facilities at any campus location, and at the Chancellor’s Office, will be required to be immunized against SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

Importantly, the requirement will be conditioned upon full approval of one or more vaccines by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), as well as the adequate availability of the fully approved vaccines. (Currently, vaccines are being administered pursuant to an emergency use authorization.) This requirement will become effective at the beginning of the fall 2021 term, or upon full FDA approval of the vaccine, whichever occurs later. It will also allow for students or employees to seek an exemption based on medical or religious grounds.

I am making this announcement today in the spirit of transparency and to give you as much advance notice as possible. I understand that you may have questions related to this announcement. The vaccination policy and related implementation details are still under development, with engagement with the California State Student Association, the CSU Academic Senate and our labor unions. We will announce these details as soon as they are available and provide ample resources at that time to address any questions or concerns you may have.

I make this announcement today with great optimism and confidence that the vaccination requirement is a vital and necessary step toward ensuring the entire Cal State community’s safety, health and well-being as we continue to prepare for the repopulation of our campuses and facilities.

Again, more details will be announced as soon as they are available. Until that time, I encourage you to get vaccinated as soon as you are able to.

As always, thank you for everything that you do for the CSU and its students, and please take care, be safe and stay healthy.

Sincerely,

Joseph I. Castro
Chancellor