
From: Lynn Cooley, Dean of the Graduate School <grad.dean@message.yale.edu>
Sent: Friday, August 13, 2021 4:23 PM
Subject: Welcome to Fall 2021 at Yale Graduate School

Yale

Graduate School of Arts and Sciences

A Message from Dean Cooley

Copied to: DGSs, Chairs, Registrars

In this message: Fall 2021 welcome and summary of vaccination and other requirements

August 13, 2021

Dear graduate students,

I am delighted to welcome all new and continuing graduate students to campus for the fall semester. More than ever, the new academic year brings excitement for everything the Yale campus and community offer our students. We will all enjoy the benefits of enormous effort to make everyone safe from COVID, including extremely high vaccination rates and a robust testing infrastructure. With continued precautions in place, we are prepared to rejoin our colleagues at Yale in person once again.

As I mentioned in [my August 6 message](#), we have reason to feel optimistic about our return to in-person teaching and learning at Yale. If you haven't read that message, please review it for detailed expectations for this fall.

Required for All Students

In accordance with recommendations from the CDC, everyone is required to wear masks indoors on campus. Please see [this message](#) from Provost Scott Strobel and Jack Callahan, Senior Vice President for Operations, for more details about this guidance.

To confirm or re-affirm our collective commitment to the health of our community, all students are required to:

- Sign the [Community Compact](#), even if you have done so previously.
- Complete [online COVID training](#).
- [Get vaccinated](#) or obtain approval for an exemption.
- Document your vaccination status in [Medicat](#).

If you are unsure whether you have completed these requirements, you can check your compliance status on the [Yale Hub](#).

Required for Fully Vaccinated Students

Residents of Yale dormitories (Helen Hadley Hall, Harkness Hall, Baker Hall, 276 Prospect, 254 Prospect, and 272 Elm) [must get tested](#) within 24-48 hours of arrival, and **complete weekly testing** through the end of September.

Students living off campus are strongly encouraged to get a gateway test prior to coming to campus. There is no routine testing requirement, although you are encouraged to get tested anytime you are concerned you may have been exposed to the virus.

Required for Unvaccinated Students (with an exemption or vaccination in progress)

Students not in residence in New Haven or CT prior to August 1:

- Come to campus or your residence in New Haven one week early.
- [Get tested](#) within 24-48 hours of arrival.
- [Quarantine](#) for a full seven days. Please factor this week into your arrival time as you will not be able to attend classes in person until after quarantine.

Students residing in Connecticut prior to August 1:

- Test and quarantine until you have a negative test result prior to starting your academic program.
- Ongoing testing will be required **twice weekly** (until fully vaccinated).

International Students

We are aware that some students residing abroad are experiencing delays due to travel restrictions and immigration issues. Please continue to work with your [OISS adviser](#) to resolve any issues. We will do everything we can to help you arrive on campus in time to start the fall semester, but if you are unable to join us in time, you may defer your admission or take a leave of absence.

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As we move into a new academic year together, please communicate directly with my office or your [Graduate Student Assembly](#) (GSA) representatives about any issues that may arise in the course of your time at Yale. The GSA and my office work together to improve the lives of graduate students – consider getting involved and let your voice be heard.

I wish you a joyful return to Yale, and a memorable beginning for those of you who are coming to campus for the first time. Public health conditions can be changeable and may affect Yale policies, sometimes very rapidly -- I will notify you of any developments as quickly as possible. With some simple precautionary measures, I hope all of you can experience a happy, productive semester in the company of your friends and colleagues.

With best wishes for a healthy and successful semester,  
Lynn Cooley

Dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences  
Vice Provost of Postdoctoral Affairs

C.N.H. Long Professor of Genetics

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