When will the flu vaccine be available?
Flu vaccine should be available at UVA Health beginning 9/21/20.

Is the flu vaccine mandatory this year?
Yes, per Health System Policy OCH-002 either a flu vaccination or an approved exemption is required for health system team members who work within a health system facility (this includes people working in the MR buildings, McKim Hall, Pinn Hall, Fontaine Research Park buildings and more).

If I am working remotely and do not go to the hospital, am I required to get vaccinated?
Per Health System Policy OCH-002, the requirement is broader than the hospital. If a supervisor or manager can attest that a team member will not enter any health system facility from 10/1/20–4/30/21, the supervisor or manager can inform Employee Health that the team member works 100% offsite. Employee Health will then waive the flu vaccination requirement for that team member. The supervisor/manager can send a list of team members who meet this criteria to employee_health@hscmail.mcc.virginia.edu. If circumstances change for that team member and they have to come in to work, they will be required to get a flu shot or seek a formal medical or religious exemption.

Are there any exceptions for the flu vaccine requirement?
All team members must either: (1) get a flu vaccination; (2) receive an approved exemption; or, (3) work 100% offsite and receive a waver for this requirement. Please refer to Health System Policy OCH-002 for more detail. Anyone who received an exemption last year has had their exemption automatically approved for this year. An email was sent to exempted team members on 9/1/20.

If you are seeking a new exemption this year, click on the linked form, sign in using your computing log in and password, and then click the [Exemption] button to the right of your 2020 flu vaccine status. Click “Religious Exemption” or “Medical Exemption” based on the type of exemption you are requesting. That will take you to the exemption form and submission instructions.

What is the deadline for getting a flu vaccine?
November 13

Will I have to pay for a flu vaccine?
The flu vaccine is provided at no cost through UVA Employee Health programs. If you seek a flu vaccine through another provider, flu vaccines are also covered 100% for team members on the UVA Health Plan.
When will flu vaccines be available?
September 21–November 13. New hires will continue to receive flu vaccinations through April 2021 during onboarding.

Where do I go to get my flu shot if I am working on site at a UVA Health location?
In order to maintain safe social distances, we will use a distributed approach to providing flu vaccinations this year, working to vaccinate team members where they work rather than in large clinics. To Go Kits will be provided to inpatient units, ambulatory clinics, and other work units employing clinicians qualified to give flu shots. In addition, we will be using clinical volunteers to take To Go Kits to non-clinical areas to provide on-location vaccinations. You can also receive a flu shot from CVS or any other community pharmacy.

Where do I go to get my flu shot if I work at the hospital or a UVA Health clinic/offsite location?
Due to the physical layout of Employee Health, flu shots will not be provided in the Employee Health clinic. Rather the intention is to vaccinate team members in their work locations using “To Go Kits.” If you work on an inpatient unit or a UVA Health ambulatory clinic, your unit manager or clinic manager will distribute the vaccine. If you work at an offsite location with a group of co-workers, a volunteer representative will be scheduling flu vaccinations at a designated time in coordination with your department.

Where do I go to get my flu shot if I am currently working remotely/teleworking?
Team members who work remotely or are teleworking are encouraged to get their flu vaccination through their primary care provider (PCP), or a local pharmacy like CVS pharmacy (CVS is associated with the UVA Health Plan).

Is the UVA Pharmacy providing flu vaccines this year?
UVA Pharmacy is not providing flu vaccines for team members in the Outpatient Pharmacy this year. This team is providing support to vaccinate nonclinical departments and groups, such as Clinical Engineering, Respiratory Therapy, and other large groups.

Is UVA Employee Health providing flu vaccines this year?
No, UVA Employee Health will not be providing flu vaccines in its clinic this year due to space challenges to ensure safe social distancing.

If I get the flu vaccine at UVA Health on my unit, in clinic or through a volunteer, how will my vaccination be documented?
Every team member vaccination will be documented through an app called VaxTrax, and uploaded to the team member’s Employee Health record.

Do I need to bring my badge to get a flu shot?
Yes, you must bring your UVA Health ID badge with you when you get your flu shot.
How will I get a sticker for the badge?
If you get your flu shot via the To Go Kit process in your department, clinic or unit, or from one of the volunteer teams providing shots in non-clinical departments, you will receive your sticker at the time you are vaccinated.

If you receive your vaccine from your PCP (including UVA PCP’s or any outside provider or pharmacy, you must provide documentation at UVA Employee Health or UVA-WorkMed to receive a sticker. Documentation must include two patient identifiers (ex: Name and DOB). If your department/unit is getting vaccinated by nurses using a “To Go Kit,” you can also turn in your documentation to the nurse and receive a sticker. The nurse will then document your flu vaccination in VaxTrax. Volunteers can turn in their documentation to the Volunteer Office.

What flu vaccine will be offered this year?
This year we are offering quadrivalent flu vaccine (FluLaval® for people under 50 years of age and no egg allergy, Flublok® for people > 50 or with an egg allergy).

If I am immunocompromised or at high risk for serious illness from COVID-19 or flu, where is the safest place for me to get a flu vaccine?
We would advise you to consult with your primary care provider, and if possible, receive your flu vaccination from your PCP for your safety.

When should I get a flu shot in order for it to be most effective?
As soon as possible. This year, we are starting the flu vaccination program earlier to protect people against the flu as we also face the impacts of COVID-19. The deadline for UVA Health Team Members to get their flu shot is November 13.

Can I get a flu vaccine at a local pharmacy or a primary care physician as long as we show a record of getting it?
Yes, absolutely. If you receive your vaccine from your PCP (including UVA PCP’s or any outside provider or pharmacy, you must provide documentation at UVA Employee Health or UVA-WorkMed to receive a sticker. Documentation must include two patient identifiers (ex: Name and DOB). If your department/unit is getting vaccinated by nurses using a “To Go Kit,” you can also turn in your documentation to the nurse and receive a sticker. The nurse will then document your flu vaccination in VaxTrax. Volunteers can turn in their documentation to the Volunteer Office.

I am a UVA School of Medicine student or School or Nursing student. Where should I get my flu shot? UVA School of Medicine or School of Nursing students are vaccinated through LabCorp, as set up by their respective schools.
I am a Morrison’s and Crothall team member. Where should I get my flu shot?
Morrison’s and Crothall team members are vaccinated in the same way as all Medical Center team members. We are connecting volunteer vaccinators with each group.

Do Medical Center vendors need to provide documentation of their flu vaccination?
Medical Center vendors are required to produce documentation in Reptrax (the vendor tracking system) that they have received this year’s seasonal flu vaccine.

Do non-UVA students working within the Medical Center need to provide documentation of their flu vaccination?
Non-UVA students working within the Medical Center will be required to provide documentation to their preceptor that they have been vaccinated.

What should I know about flu vaccines in the time of COVID-19?
There are several very informative discussions of influenza and influenza vaccination during the time of covid-19:
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm#anchor_1597410034241
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm#anchor_1591372261934

What is the difference between flu and COVID-19?
There are several very informative discussions of influenza and influenza vaccination during the time of covid-19:
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm#anchor_1597410034241
https://www.cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm#anchor_1591372261934

Where can I learn more about this year’s flu vaccine?
The Centers for Disease Control have provided resources with detailed information about this year’s flu vaccine available at:
cdc.gov/flu/index.htm
cdc.gov/vaccines/hcp/acip-recs/vacc-specific/flu.html#recs
cdc.gov/flu/season/faq-flu-season-2020-2021.htm