Sample message to share with students about vaccinations

Below is a communication faculty may share with students, which can be personalized as appropriate.

Dear Students,

Classes begin on August 16, which is just a few short weeks away.

As university preparations are underway for a full return to campus, it is important we have as many people as possible on our campus vaccinated against COVID-19. Vaccination is the **single**, **best tool we have** to end the pandemic and keep our community, ourselves and our family members safe.

Unfortunately, there is a lot of misinformation circulating about COVID-19 and the vaccinations. I encourage you to carefully check the sources for any information you see that what you are reading comes from a credible source. The CDC provides resources for <u>verifying the validity of vaccine information</u>. I also urge you to speak with your family physician or our <u>Student Health Service</u> physicians if you have any questions or concerns about vaccinations.

I care about each and every one of you and I want you to stay safe. There are still many people, including young children and those who are immunocompromised, who are not able to get vaccinated. If you have not yet been vaccinated, I truly hope you will consider doing so as soon as possible - for yourself, for your loved ones, and for those who you may never meet but who will benefit from this simple act.

If you need assistance scheduling a vaccine appointment

- Contact App State's Vaccine Team at safety@appstate.edu.
- Contact <u>AppHealthCare</u> or your local health department.
- Use the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services' (NCDHHS) <u>Vaccine</u> <u>Finder</u> to enter your zip code and find a convenient location and time.

Thank you in advance for your consideration. I'm looking forward to a great semester!

Regards, [NAME]

PS- please take a minute to read more about these seven facts about vaccines from the CDC:

- 1. No serious side effects were reported in clinical trials.
- 2. The COVID vaccines are built on decades of research on vaccines for similar viruses.
- 3. You cannot get COVID-19 from the vaccine.
- 4. The CDC and FDA are constantly monitoring safety, following federal safety guidelines, and updating North Carolinians with the best safety information.

- 5. A hundred million people in the U.S. have already received their COVID-19 vaccine._
- 6. The vaccines are proven to help prevent COVID-19 and are effective in preventing hospitalization and death.
- 7. The vaccine does not affect fertility.