[Date]

President [Name]

[Address]

[Email]

Re: [*XX University]’s COVID-19 Vaccine Mandate to Attend Graduation*

Dear President [name]

As a parent of an undergraduate student scheduled to graduate on [May 21st] of this year, I appreciate that the university’s efforts to ensure the safety and health of its community during the pandemic stem from good intentions. However, in light of the rapidly changing scientific data available regarding the vaccines[[1]](#footnote-1) as well as up to date information regarding the early treatment protocols[[2]](#footnote-2) that can be used to prevent contracting the virus, the school’s current policy appears to be overly restrictive. By implementing a vaccine mandate along with its boosters for everyone on campus, including all guests of the university, [university name] is deliberately forcing individuals to choose between risking their own life by taking an experimental vaccine that may cause disability or death or missing the monumental life achievement of a loved one. I strongly urge you to please consider the emerging new data regarding both the vaccine and the virus and end this unnecessary and unethical mandate.

Many individuals, including my [son/daughter] who has attended the university for the past 4 years, have sincere religious beliefs and convictions regarding the COVID-19 vaccines. In addition, some people have valid medical reasons that either prevent them from getting the vaccine or would place them at a higher risk of suffering an adverse reaction.[[3]](#footnote-3) Furthermore, the university’s sweeping mandate fails to take into consideration that many individuals have already been infected with COVID-19 and have acquired a robust natural immunity. Certainly, those individuals with natural immunity cannot gain any further benefit or protection from the vaccine. If anything, the university places all these individuals at an increased risk of suffering a life-altering adverse reaction or even death.

Your university has the opportunity to do the right thing and make an incremental policy change without placing anyone at risk by allowing your unvaccinated guests the ability to attend the college graduation [May 21st]by presenting a negative FDA EUA approved PCR saliva or nasal swab test 3 days prior to the campus visit (the same requirement implemented for all students returning to campus after spring break).[[4]](#footnote-4) In the alternative, I request that the university at a minimum grant religious exemptions to those parents who share the same sincere religious beliefs as their children. I would like to think that the university would want to adopt a reasonable policy that respects both public health and individual rights rather than impose policies that are discriminatory and punitive in nature under these circumstances. History will judge harshly those officials in charge of university policy who coerced an experimental vaccine and refused to allow individualized voluntary informed consent, a basic and fundamental human right to bodily autonomy.[[5]](#footnote-5)  In time, your decisions may be viewed very differently than you perceive them today. In closing, I pray that you make the right decision to allow unvaccinated guests to attend graduation on May 21st.

Sincerely,

1. [Vaccine Breakthrough Infections: The Possibility of Getting COVID-19 after Getting Vaccinated (cdc.gov)](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/effectiveness/why-measure-effectiveness/breakthrough-cases.html?s_cid=10510:%2Bcovid%20%2Bvaccine%20%2Beffective:sem.b:p:RG:GM:gen:PTN:FY21) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Pathophysiological Basis and Rationale for Early Outpatient Treatment of SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) Infection [main.pdf (nih.gov)](https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC7410805/pdf/main.pdf) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. VAERS data released on April 8, 2022, by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention included a total of 1,217,333 reports of adverse events from all age groups following COVID vaccines, including 26,699 deaths and 217,301 serious injuries between Dec. 14, 2020, and April 1, 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. [COVID-19 Update | Five Things, February 23, 2022 (fordham.edu)](https://news.fordham.edu/university-news/covid-19-update-five-things-february-23-2022/) [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. [Fifty Years Later: The Significance of the Nuremberg Code (nejm.org)](https://www.nejm.org/doi/pdf/10.1056/NEJM199711133372006?articleTools=true) [↑](#footnote-ref-5)