

**KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION 2021-2022
RESOLUTION R-003**

SUPPORT FOR ADDRESSING COVID-19 RESPONSIBLY ACT

Sponsor (s): Senator Assa, Senator Clement, Director Grant, Senator Quenneh, Senator Valdez,
Senator Wahab
Cosponsor (s):
Principal author (s): Director Cochran

WHEREAS, approximately 700,000 Americans have died from COVID-19 over the course of the pandemic, with around 25,000 of those deaths being Georgians as of October 6th, 2021, per the New York Times

WHEREAS, cases are currently spiking again in patterns similar to the onset of the virus, with the vast amounts of those dying and residing in hospitals being the unvaccinated

WHEREAS, Kennesaw State University provides vaccines from Pfizer-BioNTech, Johnson & Johnson, and Moderna free of charge to all students, staff, and faculty by way of appointment

WHEREAS, receiving a vaccine yields an effectiveness rate of 70%+ (Johnson & Johnson) to 88%+ (Pfizer) and 90%+ (Moderna) against hospitalization, illness, and death per a recently released report from the Centers for Disease Control

WHEREAS, an unvaccinated population leaves the whole more vulnerable to new variants (such as the Delta variant) that can be deadlier and resistant to treatment

WHEREAS, the vaccines are found to be safe and effective in preventing severe COVID-19 and the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine specifically is FDA approved

WHEREAS, the fully vaccinated populace of Georgia remains at around 45% of the total population, and the fully vaccinated population of Cobb County is at approximately 54% of the total population as of October 6th, 2021, per the New York Times and the Georgia Department of Public Health respectively

WHEREAS, mask mandates on college campuses is a sound public health policy, already being implemented by other universities across the country

WHEREAS, Section 4 of the USG Policy Manual reads: “During an epidemic...of any disease preventable by immunization at a [USG] institution and when an emergency has been declared by appropriate health authorities of this State, the President of this Institution, in conjunction with the Chancellor and appropriate health authorities, may promulgate rules and regulations specifying diseases which immunizations may be required”

WHEREAS, there is already precedent for vaccine and mask mandates in public schools/institutions for diseases such as polio, measles etc.. as well as previous mask mandates due to COVID-19

WHEREAS, the University System of Georgia and its Board of Regents have the power to

allow colleges and universities to enforce mask and vaccine mandates

WHEREAS, it is highly likely if cases continue to rise, the USG will be forced to mandate a return to all-online modality similar to that of the previous year

WHEREAS, the KSU Faculty Senate overwhelmingly passed a resolution calling for vaccination mandates and mask mandates

THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED that the Kennesaw State University Student Government Association strongly urges KSU to dedicate more resources to COVID-19 mitigation on the Marietta Campus that is equitable to the Kennesaw Campus; including but not limited to: additional mask provisions, hand sanitation stations, gloves, and face shields

BE IT RESOLVED that the KSU SGA calls on the USG to give universities the power to enforce vaccination and/or mask mandates as they see fit

BE IT RESOLVED that the KSU SGA calls for a return to previously implemented social distancing and mask mandates on KSU campus grounds as a minimum to protect students and faculty, alongside re-implementing previous enforcement methods

BE IT RESOLVED professors at KSU and the USG at large be allowed and assisted in whatever means necessary to make their courses available online

BE IT RESOLVED that religious and medical exemptions to vaccines continue to be observed and accommodated for

Senator for the Southern Polytechnic College of Engineering & Engineering Tech, SGA
Senator for the College of Architecture & Construction Management, SGA
Director of Diversity & Inclusion, Student Government Association
Senator for the College of Science & Mathematics, Student Government Association
Senator for LGBTQ+ Affairs, Student Government Association