The COVID-19 Vaccine:

MYTH or FACT?
“I could get infected with COVID by taking the vaccine.”
None of the approved COVID-19 vaccines in the United States contain the live virus that causes COVID-19. This means that a COVID-19 vaccine cannot make you sick with COVID-19.

“I could get infected with COVID by taking the vaccine.”
“I won’t have to wear a mask after I get the COVID vaccine.”
A vaccinated person could still get infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus. While this may not impact you directly, it could impact people around you. Until more is known, fully vaccinated people should continue to wear masks and stay 6 feet apart from other people except when you’re with your roommate, in your room. Remember to socialize outside whenever possible! 

“I won’t have to wear a mask after I get the COVID vaccine.”
“I don’t need the vaccine because I’ve already had COVID and recovered.”
"I don’t need the vaccine because I’ve already had COVID and recovered."

You **should be vaccinated** even if you’ve had COVID-19. Experts **do not yet know how long** you are protected after recovering from COVID-19.
“The COVID vaccines were developed in a hurry and aren’t safe.”
Covid-19 vaccine development was rapid, but medical researchers didn’t get to skip any steps. They had to go through the normal process for vaccine development and approval. Over 92 million doses of COVID-19 vaccine have been administered in the U.S. (as of 3/8/21). The most common side effects are pain in the vaccinated arm, fever, chills, fatigue, and headache. These side effects should go away in a few days.
“I can’t afford to pay for the vaccine.”
The federal government is providing the vaccine **free of charge** to all people living in the U.S., regardless of their immigration or health insurance status. Vaccine providers **cannot charge you** for copays or office visit fees if the only service provided is a COVID-19 vaccination.

“I can’t afford to pay for the vaccine.”
“IC students who are vaccinated are allowed to travel outside of Tompkins County.”
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Traveling is still one of the **fastest ways to spread** COVID-19, especially because there are so many people unvaccinated! For this reason, **all students are expected to remain in Tompkins County**, and please ask guests or visitors not to come to the area.
How to Get the Vaccine

• Place your name on the **Tompkins County Vaccine Registry** and be notified when appointments are available. The clinics are typically held at the **Shops at Ithaca Mall**. Which is **accessible by TCAT Route 11**.

• Or use the NYS “**Am I Eligible?**” **tool** to make an appointment at a NYS site. The Syracuse and Binghamton sites are closest to Ithaca College.

• Local pharmacies such as **CVS Pharmacy, Kinney Drugs, Walgreens, and Wegmans** may have limited appointments available. These pharmacies are also accessible by **TCAT**. Check their websites to register and schedule!