

**Statement on Restriction Exemption Program on SAIT Campuses - September 27, 2021**

Presidential Statement as authorized by the Saitsa Board of Directors.

As the COVID-19 fourth wave continues to develop, we have heard from many concerned students about the restrictions SAIT has recently put in place to respond to the state of public health emergency. We have also heard from students who are concerned about the quality of their education should classes be moved online, and from others who are concerned about the safety of taking courses in-person.

We'd like to thank all of you who have reached out to Saitsa; we have heard your concerns and are working with SAIT to ensure your concerns are heard. Despite all the challenges that we are all facing due to COVID-19, one thing remains absolutely clear for Saitsa:

*When students are on campus, their health and safety are the **top** priority.  
It is in recognition of this that the Board of Directors applauds SAIT administration's decision to follow the Restriction Exemption Program as outlined by Alberta Health and the provincial government.*

Saitsa applauds the measures that SAIT is taking to keep our health care system and our communities safe. Saitsa encourages students to ensure they have two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine as it is a simple and an effective means of protecting themselves, their peers, their communities, and smoothing the course toward a return to normalcy.

For students who cannot receive a COVID-19 vaccine due to an existing medical condition, they can request a medical exemption from the program via SAIT's [Accessibility Services](#). For those seeking accommodation on religious grounds, please contact SAIT's [Interfaith Centre](#).

For more information to express your support or concerns please contact Saitsa at [Saitsa.info@edu.sait.ca](mailto:Saitsa.info@edu.sait.ca).

*Saitsa encourages all students to follow the Governments of Alberta and Canada's public health measures to stop the spread of COVID-19, and to **get vaccinated**.*