
Meta Sets Booster Requirement 2

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Meta Sets Booster Requirement

By Chip Cutter

645 words

11 January 2022

The Wall Street Journal

J

B2

English

Copyright 2022 Dow Jones & Company, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Meta Platforms Inc. said that it would require Covid-19 booster shots for employees to work from its U.S. campuses and that it would delay fully opening those offices until late March, in another sign that the Omicron variant is shifting corporate reopening plans.

The **technology** company, which owns Facebook, Instagram and WhatsApp, said Monday that, beginning March 28, employees who meet eligibility guidelines to receive the shots would need to show proof of a booster vaccination to use its offices.

"Boosters provide increased protection," a Meta spokesman said. "Given the evidence of booster effectiveness, we are expanding our vaccination requirement to include boosters."

More companies are now putting such requirements in place, or offering incentives for workers to get additional doses.

Bank of America Corp. said last week it would donate \$100 to a food bank or hunger-relief organization for every U.S. employee who shows proof of a booster through the end of January. Executives at Jefferies Financial Group Inc. told staff in early December that the company would require everyone entering its offices or attending a company event to have a booster administered by Jan. 31, unless they are ineligible to receive one.

Industrial real-estate company Prologis Inc. recently began requiring employees in the U.S. to get the Covid-19 booster within 30 days of their eligibility to receive the shot, unless they have a medical or religious exemption. Other companies, including meatpacker JBS USA Holdings Inc. and Benchmark Senior Living LLC, an operator of assisted-living facilities, have hosted booster clinics at company sites to make it easier for employees to get another shot.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention hasn't changed the definition of what it means to be "fully vaccinated," but in a press briefing last week, CDC Director Dr. Rochelle Walensky said the agency is now recommending that individuals stay "up to date" once they become eligible for additional doses. For policy makers, changing the definition of what it means to be fully vaccinated to also include boosters would be complicated because it would affect vaccine mandates that are being challenged in courts, The Wall Street Journal previously reported.

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul said last week that healthcare workers in the state would be required to get boosters to better protect them against Covid-19. California Gov. Gavin Newsom also said last month that state healthcare workers and employees in high-risk, congregate settings would be required to get a booster by Feb. 1.

Meta had planned for its U.S. offices to fully reopen in late January. The company previously told the most of its U.S. staff that they can do their jobs remotely, if desired, or temporarily push back a return by an additional three to five months.

The latest delay means a number of employees at Meta, and other white-collar companies, will have worked remotely for about two years since the World Health Organization's 2020 pandemic declaration. Many companies had hoped to bring workers back in January, but the rapid rise in Covid-19 cases over the past few weeks has led many employers to again close offices, or to indefinitely pause reopening plans. Executives across the corporate landscape have said that it will be increasingly difficult to bring people back to offices after employees have grown so accustomed to doing their jobs from their homes.

"We understand that the continued uncertainty makes this a difficult time to make decisions about where to work, so we're giving more time to choose what works best for them," said Janelle Gale, a vice president of human resources at Meta.

Bank of America has encouraged employees at its U.S. offices to work remotely in recent weeks, amid rising Covid-19 infection rates nationally.

David Benoit contributed to this article.

Document J000000020220111ei1b0003d

Search Summary

Text	(technology OR "AI" OR fintech OR "digital banking" OR "cloud computing" OR blockchain OR cybersecurity OR "machine learning" OR "data analytics" OR "big data" OR "predictive analytics" OR "cloud migration" OR "edge computing" OR "5G banking" OR "API banking" OR "open banking" OR "data governance" OR "data monetization" OR "digital transformation" OR "quantum computing" OR "AI-driven banking" OR "AI in compliance" OR "AI-powered fraud detection" OR "AI in customer service" OR "AI in investment banking" OR "conversational AI" OR "generative AI" OR "robo-advisors" OR "natural language processing" OR "algorithmic trading" OR "automated risk assessment" OR "AI regulatory challenges" OR "embedded finance" OR neobanks OR "Banking as a Service" OR "BaaS" OR regtech OR suptech OR "decentralized finance" OR DeFi OR "cryptocurrency adoption" OR "Central Bank Digital Currencies" OR CBDCs OR tokenization OR "real-time payments" OR "Buy Now Pay Later" OR BNPL OR "cyber resilience" OR "Zero Trust security" OR "identity verification" OR "fraud detection" OR "insider threats" OR "AI-driven cybersecurity" OR "financial data breaches" OR "data privacy laws" OR GDPR OR CCPA OR "operational risk management" OR "regulatory compliance technology" OR KYC OR "Know Your Customer" OR AML OR "Anti-Money Laundering" OR "hyper-personalization in banking" OR "customer-centric banking" OR "omnichannel banking" OR "digital wallets" OR "contactless payments" OR "voice banking" OR "biometric authentication" OR "wearable banking" OR "banking UX/UI innovations" OR "financial inclusion technology")
Date	01/01/2022 to 03/31/2022
Source	The New York Times Or The Wall Street Journal Or The Economist Or Forbes
Author	All Authors
Company	Bank of America Corporation
Subject	All Subjects
Industry	All Industries
Region	All Regions
Language	English
Results Found	1
Timestamp	7 March 2025 3:04 AM GMT