

Port Authority

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (March 11, 2022) - Port Authority riders are likely to experience significant delays and a large number of missed trips if more than 500 unvaccinated employees don't comply with its vaccination requirement.

Riders may need to consider alternate methods of transportation. With such a significant portion of its workforce unavailable, the agency will not be able to deliver up to 20% of its scheduled service for the next several weeks. It will not be possible to detail where service outages will occur day-to-day.

"The COVID-19 outbreak has clearly shown the need to provide a safe transit environment for riders who rely on our services every day – even during a pandemic," said Port Authority CEO Katharine Kelleman. "Enforcing the vaccine requirement is the best way for us to keep our riders, employees, and all our families safe.

"We understand this may leave us temporarily shorthanded, but at the end of the day, this is the right thing to."

Approximately 80% of the agency's 2,700 employees are fully vaccinated, including every new employee since October 2021. Port Authority has offered financial incentives for existing employees since March 2021.

Under the Authority's requirement, employees who do not submit proof of full vaccination will be held off with pay beginning March 16 until their disciplinary hearings the following week.

Riders are encouraged to take advantage of tools that may help make their trip planning easier, including TrueTime (<https://truetime.portauthority.org/>) or TrueTime by Text for up-to-date stop times by text message (<http://truetime.portauthority.org/trackbytext>).

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