



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY**  
P.O. Box 41101 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1101

June 10, 2020

**TO:** All Incarcerated Individuals and Residents

**FROM:** Stephen Sinclair, Secretary

**SUBJECT: Safe Start Corrections**

On May 4, 2020, Governor Inslee announced Safe Start Washington, his four-phased approach for resuming recreation, social and business activities in counties. As a state agency with locations spread throughout the state, Corrections has developed a step-by-step plan to begin safely reopening our operations. We are committed to safe operations, therefore our reopening will be done systematically.

The Safe Start Corrections plan is based upon these guiding principles:

- The safety of employees, incarcerated/supervised individuals, and stakeholders comes first;
- Utilization of sound public health and safety practices; and,
- Timely and equitable public service.

You may hear about local businesses and other organizations reopening at a faster pace than our correctional facilities. Please understand that we must ensure every appropriate precautionary step is taken to safely return employees, and incarcerated and supervised individuals back to worksites and programs.

The following key areas of focus will remain in effect through each step:

- Social distancing
- Frequent and adequate hand washing
- Frequent cleaning and sanitizing of high-touch surfaces
- Continued education and communication about mitigating the spread of COVID-19

Additionally, the agency will continue to adhere to the established guidelines, to include the use of mandatory face coverings.

We are committed to safely resuming operations and adapting to a new normal. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through the steps.

***“Working Together for SAFER Communities”***