




STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
MONROE CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX
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Date: July 9, 2020
To: MCC Staff
From: Eric Jackson, Superintendent 
Subject: MSU Incarcerated Individual COVID-19 Testing

The Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC) will begin COVID-19 testing of the incarcerated population housed at the Minimum Security Unit (MSU) on Friday, July 10, 2020 and continuing over the next several days. The decision to test the incarcerated population at MCC-MSU is based on the recent increase in positive cases at the facility and will help efforts to prevent ongoing transmission. The department is working to develop a plan to test staff at MCC and more information will be coming out once the plan is finalized.

The test involves collecting a nasal specimen to detect active infection. It is not an antibody test and does not reflect your possible immune status from a previous infection. A swab will be inserted into the nose and rotated. It is not the more invasive nasopharyngeal swab and you may be asked to collect the specimen yourself.

Test results are expected back in three to five days and individuals will be notified if the results are positive for COVID-19. Depending on test results, incarcerated individuals may be moved to a different housing assignment within MCC, to include the IMU/COVID Unit. Individuals who test positive will be housed together. Individuals who test negative will be tested a second time and those that receive a double negative result will be housed together.

Incarcerated individuals, who refuse testing, will be treated as if they are positive and will be placed in a separate medical isolation area to prevent potential spread.

At this time, the entire MSU facility is being placed on modified restricted movement due to being quarantined. Individuals outside of their cubicle/cell area will practice social distancing while wearing their face coverings. As an additional safety measure, all staff at MSU will be required to wear surgical masks.

At this time, all scheduled transfers for MCC-MSU have been temporarily postponed and releases from MCC-MSU will occur as they have been previously, following established protocols in the current version of the [WA State DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing, and Infection Control Guideline](#).

We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to work through these challenging times together.

“Working Together for SAFE Communities”