



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
**MONROE CORRECTIONAL COMPLEX**  
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Date: July 20, 2020  
To: MCC Employees  
From: Mike Obenland, Superintendent  
Subject: Staff COVID-19 Testing

Monroe Correctional Complex (MCC) will begin mandatory COVID-19 testing of employees at the complex on Tuesday, July 21, 2020.

Testing will occur in partnership with the [Department of Health \(DOH\)](#) and [Snohomish Health District](#). Department of Health employees will assist in testing MCC employees similar to the way they have assisted in testing efforts in the surrounding communities.

The staff testing stations will be set up in the WSRU Administration Building downstairs in Okay Café area and in the EFV Processing Center (Building across the road from the Performance Center). All staff will be tested either prior to reporting to their assigned work location/post, or during their assigned shift and testing will be conducted on all three shifts. Hours will be 0500-0900 and 1200-1600 Tuesday – Friday. Staff may be tested at either location and if there are long lines at one location, feel free to try the other location.

The test involves the employee self-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 each nostril and rotated. It is not the more invasive nasopharyngeal swab and you will be asked to collect the specimen yourself.

To help prevent outgoing transmission at the facility moving forward, staff testing will be repeated every seven days until further notice. This is known as serial testing. You will be assigned a day of the week to be tested with make-up days if you are not at work on your assigned day. All initial, serial testing, and make-up testing will be self-collected.

Test results are expected back in three to five days. Those staff who test positive will be contacted by Occupational Nurse Consultants (ONCs) from the Department's Occupational Health and Wellness Unit. The ONCs will follow the published [COVID-19 Mapping for Staff and Incarcerated Individuals](#). Staff members who have previously tested positive and completed their isolation requirements will be required to provide a copy of your lab results to human resources and will be exempt from initial and serial testing.

We are working to establish a toll-free line for staff to utilize if they have not been contacted five days after their testing date. This toll free line is intended to be used by staff to confirm if they have negative results. We will publish the toll-free line as soon as it is operational.

We know this is a difficult time for everyone, especially as you await test results and we understand the added stress and anxiety it brings. Remember to social distance, wash hands or use sanitizer frequently, wear a face covering at all times and use other appropriate PPE per the [WA STATE DOC COVID-19 PPE Matrix](#) as these are the best prevention measures.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to keeping yourself and those we serve safe and healthy. We appreciate your patience and understanding as we continue to work through these challenging times together.