




STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

March 4, 2021

TO: Appointing Authorities
Human Resource Managers
Training and Development Unit Staff
FPC Team

FROM:  Jamison Roberts, Emergency Operations Manager

SUBJECT: Rapid Antigen Testing Required for Staff Attending/Instructing Training

As we continue our strategies to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 we must continually review and update our protocols as necessary. Therefore, effective no later than March 15, 2021, staff and instructors scheduled to attend/instruct in-person training occurring at a DOC training facility/Performance Center lasting more than one (1) day in duration, will now also be required to submit to Rapid Antigen testing on the first day of training and on the first day of each new week of training. Training academies included, but are not limited to the following:

- Correctional Worker Core,
- New Employee Orientation, and
- Community Corrections Officer Academy

If a staff or contractor refuses rapid antigen testing, they will not be granted access to the training site. Additionally, their Appointing Authority, supervisor, and local HR office will be notified.

Rapid antigen testing does not replace the previously announced requirement for training attendees and instructors to complete serial testing as previously announced in a [memo](#) dated January 26, 2021. Staff and instructors are required to have a serial test completed the week prior to arriving at training and are required to participate in weekly serial testing at the training facility/Performance Center.

Staff who are exempt from serial testing will also be exempt from the rapid antigen testing requirement.

Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work to protect those incarcerated with us, our fellow employees and our communities. Remember to continue to socially distance, wear appropriate [PPE](#), wash hands frequently, and clean/sanitize areas.

cc: Jeremy Turner, COVID-19 Testing Group Supervisor