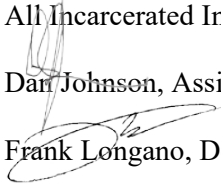




STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**  
P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

March 15, 2021

**TO:** All Incarcerated Individuals

**FROM:** Dan Johnson, Assistant Secretary, Health Services  
  
Frank Longano, Deputy Chief Medical Officer

**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Vaccine – Updated Prioritizations

On February 19, 2021, we [shared an update](#) regarding ongoing Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) COVID-19 vaccination efforts and the need for Phase 1A prioritization for members of our incarcerated population that work directly in our health care, custodial, laundry and food service locations.

On March 4, 2021, Governor Inslee announced tentative dates for the next phases of vaccine eligibility and updated prioritizations, which [can be viewed here](#). The state is expected to move to Phase 1B2 around March 17, 2021. Phase 1B2 is now expected to include the following:

- High risk critical workers who work in certain congregate settings:
  - Agriculture
  - Fishing vessel crews
  - Food processing
  - Grocery stores
  - Corrections
  - Prisons
  - Jails or detention centers
  - Public transit
  - Remaining first responders
- People 16 years or older who are pregnant or have a disability that puts them at high risk for severe COVID-19 illness

The department anticipates that this will mean more staff, and some incarcerated individuals, will be eligible for the vaccine earlier than initially thought. Health Services will continue to identify those believed to meet the appropriate criteria for prioritization. The department's ability to provide the vaccine will continue to depend on the Washington State Department of Health's guidance and the state's vaccine supply. As national and statewide guidance for prioritization continues to fluctuate, vaccine supply continues to be very limited.

For information on our current COVID-19 phases please view DOC's Frequently Asked Questions which can be found [here](#). We will continue to provide relevant information as more guidance is made available.

Thank you for all you are doing to mitigate the spread of COVID 19. Please continue to wear your mask, stay six feet apart from others whenever possible and wash hands as frequently as practical.

***"Working Together for SAFER Communities"***