



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

August 23, 2021

**TO:** All DOC Staff  
**FROM:** Sean Murphy, Deputy Secretary  
**SUBJECT:** Expanded Statewide Mask Mandate

Effective August 23, 2021, Governor Inslee has expanded the [statewide indoor mask mandate](#) to include both vaccinated and unvaccinated people. The mask mandate included an exception for areas not generally accessible to the public. Staff are required to follow the Department's current Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) Matrix; however, staff may choose to wear masks beyond what is required in the matrix.

Appointing Authorities should monitor Local Health Jurisdiction mandates for the counties in which their facilities or offices are located. Worksites must follow whichever guidance is most restrictive. Review the local mandate in its entirety, exemptions for locations with controlled public access may be included, to determine whether or not a mandate applies to the worksite and will communicate with staff any changes as appropriate.

If worksites have any questions, they should consult with their divisions Safe Start Liaison to determine whether or not their guidance is in compliance with the change. This information will also be included in the next DOC Safe Start Plan update.

It is our responsibility to continue ensuring the health and safety of our fellow staff members, those under our jurisdiction and our friends and family. By frequently washing your hands, socially distancing, and getting vaccinated for COVID-19 and influenza, you can do your part to stay safe and healthy.

Best regards,

Sean Murphy  
Deputy Secretary, MPA, ACHE  
Washington State Department of Corrections