




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

September 23, 2021

**TO:** Interested Parties

**FROM:**  Mike Obenland, Assistant Secretary, Prisons

 Danielle Armbruster, Assistant Secretary, Reentry

**SUBJECT:** Rapid Antigen Testing Volunteers and Visitors

Due to the increase of COVID-19 cases in communities across Washington and increasing concerns about variants, the Washington State Department of Corrections (DOC) is adjusting practices and protocols to continue mitigating the risk of COVID-19 transmission.

Beginning September 24, 2021 DOC will require all visitors and volunteers entering congregate settings (Prison and Work Release facilities) to take a rapid antigen test prior to entering regardless of vaccination status.

Visitors and volunteers who test positive for COVID-19, will not be granted access for a period of 20 days, **unless written medical clearance is given by a medical provider**. All positive test results will be reported to the local health care jurisdiction and the Washington State Department of Health. All people who test positive for COVID-19 should seek medical care from their personal medical providers.

cc: Sean Murphy, Deputy Secretary  
Arminda Miller, Emergency Operations Center Prisons Liaison  
Ryan Sadler, Emergency Operations Center Work Release Liaison