



STATE OF WASHINGTON

**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

P.O. Box 41100 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1100

October 29, 2021

**TO:** All DOC Staff  
All Incarcerated Individuals

**FROM:** COVID-19 Medical Team

**SUBJECT:** COVID-19 Vaccine Booster Doses

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) announced updated recommendations for COVID-19 vaccine booster doses on October 22, 2021. COVID-19 vaccine boosters are now recommended for all individuals who live or work in a correctional facility regardless of the type of vaccine received for the primary series.

The DOC COVID-19 Vaccine Team is currently developing a process for offering booster doses on-site to patients and staff who are interested. These booster doses are not part of the Governor's vaccine mandate and are completely voluntary. While awaiting finalization of the process, please do the following:

- Individuals living in the facility who are interested in receiving a booster can send a Health Services kite to the Infection Prevention Nurse.
- Staff may obtain a COVID-19 booster vaccine at a community pharmacy or provider office. However, if you want to receive a booster dose at work, there will be a sign-up sheet posted soon in the COVID-19 testing areas at the entry of each facility.

Of note, unlike a booster dose, a 3-dose series of Moderna or Pfizer vaccine is recommended for some individuals with a weakened immune system. If you think that you have a condition or take a medication that causes your immune system to be weakened, please notify your practitioner.

- Patients in prison who have not already received a third dose, can do so by sending a Health Services kite to their primary practitioner or Infection Prevention Nurse.
- Staff should contact their community provider or pharmacy to discuss the need for a 3-dose series of Moderna or Pfizer.

Thank you for all that you do to keep our work place safe.

***“Working Together for SAFER Communities”***