



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

January 28, 2022

TO: AHCC Incarcerated Individuals

FROM: James Key, Superintendent

SUBJECT: AHCC COVID-19 Weekly Update

On January 19, 2022, Airway Heights Corrections Center (AHCC) was placed on Facility Wide Outbreak status and began testing the entire population. AHCC has had 611 confirmed new positive cases in the incarcerated population in the last 30 days.

We continue to follow the [Prisons Division Cluster and Outbreak Checklist](#) and remain in restricted movement at this time.

On January 27, 2021, the MSU C6 Recreation building became an additional Alternate Housing Area (AHA) for isolation purposes to house covid confirmed positive individuals that are asymptomatic.

As of today, DOC is expanding the availability for the voluntary use of N-95 respirators to the incarcerated population. Information about voluntary N-95 respirator use will be posted in locations where masks are dispensed and on safety bulletin boards. An N-95 mask can be reused for five (5) days but should be replaced sooner if it becomes soiled. N-95 respirators are available on the living units in the officer stations and incarcerated individuals can request one from unit staff.

Health Services:

We continue to separate suspected or confirmed positive COVID-19 individuals from healthy individuals. Separation occurs as soon as possible, within available resources, as per [WA State DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing, and Infection Control Guideline](#).

There have been concerns shared regarding individuals returning from medical isolation to their living units. We do not move individuals out of medical isolation until they meet CDC/DOC criteria for being recovered from their COVID-19 infection and are no longer considered infectious.

Most incarcerated individuals who test positive for COVID are placed on medical isolation for 10-14 days as per the [WA State DOC COVID-19 Screening, Testing, and Infection Control Guideline](#). Those who are vaccinated are released from isolation earlier than unvaccinated people. For individuals who are immune compromised, they will be isolated for a longer period of time.

For a tier to be released from quarantine status, the entire tier must test negative for three test cycles (PCR testing will be done on day 0-2, day 5-7, and day 10-14). If there is one positive test as a result of any of the testing days on the tier, the testing cycle starts over.

Correctional Industries message from Vicki Hoffman, AHCC CI General Manager:
AHCC Correctional Industries would like to thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate through our change in operations. Every effort is being made to continue with regular scheduled food service, commissary, and laundry services under these extraordinary circumstances. We truly appreciate the individuals who have stepped in to volunteer to help in Laundry Service and Foodservice operations to maintain regular operations and service to the facility. Thank you for your patience as we continue to navigate through this situation.

Message from Jpay regarding Video Visits:

Dear JPay Customer,

We wanted to inform you that Airway Heights will be adjusting their video connect session times starting Saturday, January 28, 2022. Unfortunately, these time changes may have impacted your currently scheduled video connect session, so please ask your friends and family to go into their JPay account and check to see if their video connect session time has been cancelled. If cancelled, a credit will be applied to their account to reschedule a visit at another time.

You can also check the Video Visitation button on the kiosk to see if your scheduled video connect session has been adjusted or cancelled.

We apologize for the inconvenience. -Your JPay Team

It is imperative that everyone continue to wear a surgical mask or appropriate [personal protective equipment \(PPE\)](#). Similarly, it is vital that we continue to follow the [Centers for Disease Control \(CDC\) guidelines](#): ensuring to follow the six (6) foot physical distancing rule, washing your hands, and keeping high-touch areas of the facility sanitized.

Corrections is committed to everyone's safety. We will continue to communicate with you as we progress through this pandemic.