



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
P.O. Box 41101 • Olympia, Washington 98504-1101

March 4, 2022

Dear Families,

Cases of COVID-19 continue to drop. Last weekend we were able to open visitation at three facilities: Clallam Bay Corrections Center, Cedar Creek Corrections Center and Olympic Corrections Center. I am happy to share that as of today, visitation has reopened at Stafford Creek Corrections Center, Washington Corrections Center, Monroe Correctional Complex (MSU, SOU A, B, C and D units, TRU, WSRU), and the East Complex and BAR units of the Washington State Penitentiary.

We'll also resume visitation for additional facilities in the days ahead; Airway Heights Corrections Center (MSU only), Coyote Ridge Corrections Center, Mission Creek Corrections Center, Monroe Correctional Complex (E and F units), and Washington Corrections Center for Women. These do not include Extended Family Visits (EFVs).

While the impact of visitation cannot be understated, please know that the pandemic is far from over and there are still new cases of COVID-19 diagnosed each day. Please check the facility web page where your loved one resides for updated status and details.

Meanwhile, commissary credits (\$10) funded by the [Incarcerated Individual Betterment Fund \(IIBF\)](#) will be available starting March 7, on the incarcerated individuals' regularly scheduled store day. Televisions were delivered to facility warehouses last week. These will be available to loan to those individuals who remain in isolation and quarantine.

Earlier today we held a COVID informational webinar to share information on topics we receive the most interest in. We plan to hold our second webinar next Friday, March 11 at 2:30 PM. You can register in advance on the front page of the DOC website, and send questions in advance (by Wednesday 3/9 at 5:00 pm) to DOCCOVIDQuestions@doc.wa.gov. We'll post answers to questions and updates on the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) of the COVID-19 section of our website.

While the effect of COVID-19 restrictions has been frustrating and at times agonizing, there continue to be successes. On Friday March 11, another class of the Trade Related Apprenticeship Coaching (TRAC) program at Mission Creek Corrections Center (MCCCW) will graduate. The women in the TRAC program complete a 16-week pre-apprenticeship class to participate in hands-on vocational training in trades including carpentry, iron work, construction, craft laborers, cement masons and plastering. At the end of the class, students can test for preferred entry into union apprenticeships for each trade.

"Working Together for SAFER Communities"

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These graduates are to be commended for their dedication and resilience and their success is a bright spot amid these tough times and is to be celebrated. This is just one of the signs of our gradual return to a life not fully dictated by covid.

Thank you for your support of those under our care and custody to encourage their success moving forward.

Fondly,



Cheryl Strange, Secretary
Department of Corrections