

# Corrections' COVID-19 Bulletin

December 29, 2020

Bulletin 9



## Current Status

In an effort to support the incarcerated population's right to marry during the pandemic, the Department of Corrections has created a new [virtual marriage ceremony](#) process.

## Numbers at a Glance

- **790** Total Staff Cases to Date
- **15,111** November 2020 Total [Average Daily Population](#) of Incarcerated Individuals for Prison and Work Release Facilities
- **2,380** Total Active Incarcerated Cases
- **1,945** Total Recovered Incarcerated Cases
- **20th** out of 50 states for [number of positive cases](#) (Data from [covidprisonproject.com](#))
- **25th** out of 50 states for [cases as a percentage of the population](#) (Data from [covidprisonproject.com](#))

## Frequently Asked Questions

### Is Washington State Department of Corrections developing a priority list for receiving vaccinations?

Yes. While the Department would prefer to vaccinate all employees and incarcerated individuals as soon as possible, vaccine doses will initially be very limited so the Department must prioritize doses to the highest risk individuals. The priority list is based on the [Centers for Disease Control & Prevention's Advisory Committee for Immunization Practices \(ACIP\)](#) and [Washington State Department of Health \(DOH\)](#) recommendations for Phase 1A vaccine dosing prioritization. The recommendation is that workers in healthcare settings, who are most at risk for becoming infected, such as those working in units that care for people with COVID-19 as well as residents of long-term care facilities, be offered the first available doses of the vaccine.

According to Washington State Corrections' current Phase 1A prioritization plan, reviewed with the Washington State Department of Health, the following groups will be offered priority vaccines:

1. Departmental staff working in the [Coyote Ridge Corrections Center \(CRCC\)](#) Sage East unit, a long-term care living unit that houses geriatric incarcerated individuals with chronic medical needs and/or requiring assistance with activities and daily living;
2. Incarcerated individuals who are geriatric with chronic medical needs residing and/or requiring assistance with activities of daily living in CRCC Sage East, a long term care living unit in the facility that houses less than 40 individuals, or other long term care patients (approximately 20) with similar needs who cannot reside in Sage East;
3. Departmental staff working in medical in-patient units at multiple facilities and regional care facilities (RCF) caring for COVID-19 patients; and,
4. Departmental staff working in medical isolation units at multiple facilities comprised of COVID-19 patients. All employees and incarcerated individuals not listed above will be offered a COVID-19 vaccination in the coming weeks and months as the Department receives more doses and further prioritization guidelines are issued by the CDC and Washington State DOH.

### When will Washington DOC receive doses of the COVID-19 vaccine?

The Department of Corrections has begun receiving COVID-19 vaccine doses and, as of December 28, 2020, has begun vaccinating departmental employees and incarcerated individuals according to the Phase 1A prioritization plan.

## How will you distribute the vaccines?

Vaccine doses will be sent directly to the facilities housing or employing the individuals and employees identified in the Phase 1A prioritization plan. Identification of receiving facilities based on updated prioritization will be done on a weekly basis. Each COVID-19 vaccine has its own handling and storage requirements requiring careful planning and coordination.

## Prison Facilities

### Airway Heights Corrections Center (AHCC)

- To date, 1,424 incarcerated individuals have tested positive for COVID-19.
- The Rapid Deployment Care Facility alternate housing area is complete and available for occupancy. The alternate housing area includes ten (10) beds, four (4) showers and four (4) toilets. (See photo gallery)

#### Photo Gallery



### Coyote Ridge Corrections Center (CRCC)

- To date, 353 incarcerated individuals have tested positive for COVID-19.
- CRCC Minimum Security Unit Camus Unit was released from quarantine status.

### Stafford Creek Corrections Center (SCCC)

- To date, 859 incarcerated individuals have tested positive for COVID-19.

### Washington Corrections Center (WCC)

- To date, 721 incarcerated individuals have tested positive for COVID-19.

### Washington State Penitentiary (WSP)

- To date, 801 incarcerated individuals have tested positive for COVID-19.

## Work Release Facilities

### Ahtanum View Work Release

- To date, 2 residents have tested positive for COVID-19.
- The Ahtanum View Work Release facility remains on quarantine status.
- Residents have access to cell phones to make contact with family and employers.

### Peninsula Work Release

- To date, 1 resident has tested positive for COVID-19.
- The Peninsula Work Release facility remains on quarantine status.
- Residents have access to cell phones to make contact with family and employers.

## Significant Event Timeline

The [COVID-19 Significant Event Timeline](#) is published publicly for interested parties and stakeholders to promote and cultivate an environment of integrity and trust, and to foster openness, values which are part of Corrections' mission to improve public safety. The following events occurred today:

- 12/29/2020 – Press Release: [DOC Receives Limited COVID-19 Vaccine for Prioritized Patients and Staff](#)
- 12/29/2020 – Memo to [incarcerated individuals](#) regarding COVID-19 Test Information

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