

COVID-19

Friday, June 19, 2020

COVID-19 AND TESTING: WHO SHOULD BE TESTED, AND MORE

The Snohomish Health District explains how testing is one of the key pieces in slowing the spread of COVID-19. Details at right.

FOUR COUNTIES, INCLUDING KING AND ISLAND, APPROVED TO MOVE TO NEXT PHASE OF GOV. JAY INSLEE'S SAFE START PLAN

King County has been approved to move to Phase 2 of the Safe Start Plan. Island County has advanced to Phase 3.

CITY PROVIDES ARLINGTON COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER WITH FUNDS TO SUPPORT LOW INCOME RESIDENTS

The City of Arlington presented a check for \$100,000 to the Arlington Community Resource Center to help support low income residents impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The money is from the CARES Act Funds for Local Government program.

SNOHOMISH COUNTY DAILY BRIEFING

COVID-19 and Testing: Who Should Be Tested, and More

The Snohomish Health District (SHD) published a new blog post discussing how testing is one of the key pieces of the COVID-19 response, and it is something that has changed and expanded over time. Testing will continue to play a crucial role in reducing the spread of illness, responding to outbreaks, tracking this pandemic, and – ultimately – being able to reopen more of our economy and activities.

COVID-19 testing is much more widely available now than it was in the early days of the pandemic. Snohomish County currently has more testing capacity than demand. In some ways, that can be good news, as it may signal that fewer people are in need of testing. But ideally, we want to be testing more people so that we can track the status of COVID-19 in the community. It shapes our understanding of this pandemic and informs our efforts to curb the spread of this disease by isolating cases, identifying their contacts, and making sure they're quarantined.

SHD's blog post discusses the following:

- How much testing do we need?
- Who should get tested for COVID-19?
- Why not test everyone?
- How do people get tested?
- Won't more testing make it harder to reopen things?
- Do I have to quarantine if I get tested?
- What if I'm a close contact of a confirmed case but my test comes back negative?
- What does the test entail?

For more information about testing please read SHD's [blog post](#).

Four Counties, Including King and Island, Approved to Move to Next Phase of Gov. Jay Inslee's Safe Start Plan

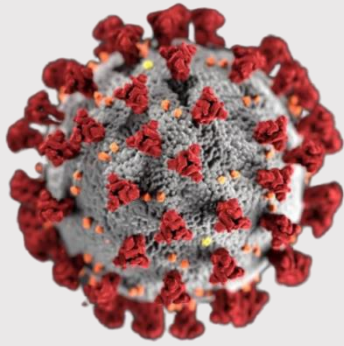
Today Washington State Secretary of Health John Wiesman approved King County to move to Phase 2 and Island, Lewis, and Mason counties to move to Phase 3 of Gov. Jay Inslee's [Safe Start plan](#).

A total of three counties are in Phase 1, two counties are in a modified version of Phase 1, 19 counties are in Phase 2 and 15 counties are in Phase 3.

Cowlitz, Kittitas, and Thurston counties have applied to move from Phase 2 to Phase 3. Benton and Franklin counties have applied to move from Phase 1 to Phase 2, and their applications are currently on pause. The department is working with local officials to discuss next steps.

City Provides Arlington Community Resource Center with Funds to Support Low Income Residents

This week, Mayor Barb Tolbert presented the Arlington Community Resource Center with a check for \$100,000. The money is from the [CARES Act Funds for Local Government program](#).



COVID-19

BOTHELL ANNOUNCES JULY 4TH PORCH PARADE TO CELEBRATE INDEPENDENCE DAY

Details on how Bothell residents can participate in the July 4th Porch Parade event are at right.

CURBSIDE PICKUP NOW AVAILABLE AT EVERETT LIBRARY'S MAIN BRANCH

See the information at right for how Everett Library card holders can receive library materials using curbside pickup.

This support will help meet basic needs. It will help prevent homelessness and eviction, pay for utility and food expenses, and help vulnerable families get through the COVID-19 pandemic.

"We are incredibly grateful to be able to serve the residents of Arlington in the midst of such difficult times. These funds will go a long way towards providing stability to families experiencing housing and food insecurity," said Brian Smith, COO of Volunteers of America Western Washington, the parent organization for Arlington Community Resource Center.

This money will be dispersed by the Arlington Community Resource Center on a case by case basis. The target population will be those residents who are the most vulnerable to losing their housing due to job loss or cut in hours or pay. Applicants must be an Arlington resident with identification; be able to provide two months of bank statements, the current bill(s) for which help is needed, a lease/mortgage agreement, verification of income, and screenshot of unemployment status.

Contact the Arlington Resource Center at 360-322-6988 to make an appointment with a Support Specialist. Open Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For Spanish speaking residents, call 360-399-9103 to reach a bilingual Support Specialist.

Bothell Announces July 4th Porch Parade to Celebrate Independence Day

The City of Bothell Fourth of July Parade has always been a celebration of people, events, and traditions, bridging communities in Bothell and beyond. Unfortunately, due to social distancing requirements and budget impacts from COVID-19, the City of Bothell will not be holding its traditional July 4th parade. Instead, it is inviting members of the community to join in a first-ever Porch Parade! Choose one of our themes as inspiration, or go wild with your own ideas and decorate your porches, patios and storefronts – whatever is visible from the road! The Porch Parade is an opportunity to unleash your creativity, create new memories and bring a smile to your friends, family and neighbors.

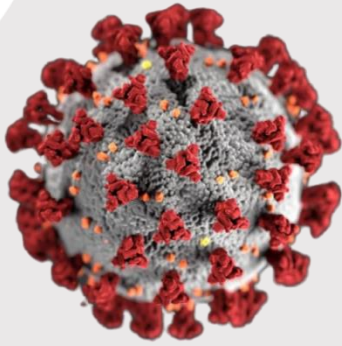
We will produce a virtual map with the locations of all registered porches, patios, windows, and storefronts in Bothell, so you can plan a walk, or drive around the city to see and share in the celebration. Displays must be fully decorated by 12 noon on Saturday, June 27, and stay up through Saturday, July 4, and must be appropriate for a family audience. If you're unable to decorate your porch by the 27th, simply register once it's ready! Check out www.bothellwa.gov/2020porchparade for more details, and to register your display.

Think we forgot about those camping chairs? Think again! This year, we're asking the community to place chairs on their own lawns, porches, or patios with a sign thanking their "Hometown Hero." A "Hometown Hero" is anyone who has helped make a difference during the pandemic, such as a nurse, mail carrier, firefighter, grocery clerk, or teacher.

[Read the full release.](#)

Curbside Pickup Now Available at Everett Library's Main Branch

The Everett Public Library announced [exciting news this week](#): curbside pickup is now available at the main branch! Library card holders can call 425-257-8000 or log in to epls.org to request materials. Once you get the notification that your materials are ready, head to the main library Monday-Friday, 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturday, 12 p.m. to 5 p.m. to pick up within 10 days. Curbside service will be a socially distant, contactless



COVID-19

STEVENS PASS CLOSED FOR SUMMER ACTIVITIES

Stevens Pass has announced that it will not be reopening for summer 2020 operations.

INSLEE EXTENDS 23 PROCLAMATIONS RELATING TO COVID-19

Gov. Jay Inslee announced the extension of 23 proclamations in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic.

L&I HAS AGRICULTURE TRAINING KIT ON COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS

The new safety and health toolkit will help agricultural employers comply with employment education requirements.

service and staff ask that you please wear a face cover and stay in your vehicle or at least 6 feet from others.

Stevens Pass Closed for Summer Activities

In a message on its website, Stevens Pass has announced that it will not be reopening for summer 2020 operations. The message reads in part:

"While we will miss seeing you at the mountain this summer, we are confident this is the right decision for our employees and guests as we adapt and prepare for what we foresee to be an amazing winter. If you find yourself missing Stevens, hiking on the Pacific Crest Trail (PCT) that crosses through our base area is open. Please enjoy the scenery, and the beauty of Cascades from the trail."

Inslee Extends 23 Proclamations Relating to COVID-19

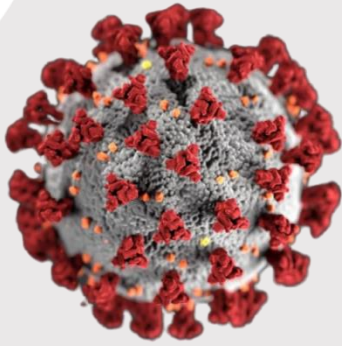
Gov. Jay Inslee announced the extension of 23 proclamations in response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic. The extensions were approved by the state Legislature.

A June 17 [letter](#) from the Legislature extends the following proclamations to July 1:

- [20-15.4](#): Department of Licensing ([20-15.3](#))
- [20-20.4](#): Department of Revenue -- Relief from Penalties, Fees, Interest, Due Dates ([20-20.3](#))
- [20-21.4](#): Unemployment Benefit – 1 Week Waiver ([20-21.3](#))
- [20-23.5](#): Ratepayer Assistance and Preservation of Essential Services ([20-23.4](#))
- [20-26.4](#): Liquor and Cannabis Board ([20-26.3](#))
- [20-27.4](#): Electronic Notary ([20-27.3](#))
- [20-28.5](#): Open Public Meetings Act and Public Records Act ([20-28.4](#))
- [20-29.4](#): Telemedicine ([20-29.3](#))
- [20-30.4](#): Unemployment Benefit – Job Search Requirement ([20-30.3](#))
- [20-31.4](#): Division of Child, Youth, and Families – Child Care and Background Checks ([20-31.3](#))
- [20-32.4](#): Department of Health– Health Care Workers ([20-32.3](#))
- [20-33.6](#): Department of Child, Youth, and Families – Visitation and Remedial Services ([20-33.5](#))
- [20-34.4](#): State Auditor's Office – Financial Reporting ([20-34.3](#))
- [20-37.4](#): Department of Social & Health Services – NAR Waiver ([20-37.3](#))
- [20-38.4](#): Department of Social & Health Services – Facilities ([20-38.3](#))
- [20-39.4](#): Post-Retirement Employment ([20-39.3](#))
- [20-41.4](#): Department of Licensing – License and Permit Renewal Extension ([20-41.3](#))
- [20-43.3](#): Office of Financial Management, State Human Resources Division – Annual Leave and Pay Procedures ([20-43.2](#))
- [20-44.3](#): Nursing Home Transfer or Discharge for COVID-19 Cohorting Purposes ([20-44.2](#))
- [20-48.3](#): Department of Licensing – CDL Health Certificates and Other Requirements ([20-48.2](#))
- [20-49.5](#): Garnishments ([20-49.4](#))
- [20-51.3](#): Community Associations Meetings and Late Fees ([20-51.2](#))
- [20-52.3](#): Statewide Orders Relating to Long-Term Care ([20-52.2](#))

Labor & Industries Releases Training Kit on the Agricultural Requirements for Employers During COVID-19

This [safety and health tool kit](#) will help agricultural employers comply with [employ education requirements](#). Employers are required to comply with



COVID-19

EMPLOYER TAX CREDITS HELP BUSINESSES MAINTAIN THEIR WORKFORCE, PERMIT LEAVE TO AFFECTED WORKERS

The IRS has detailed two important tax credits for employers affected by the COVID-19 pandemic: the Credit for Sick and Family Leave and the Employee Retention Credit.

RETURN-TO-WORK RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS

The Employment Security Department's return-to-work resources are helping businesses resume operations and workers return to the job. Information on resources at right.

STATEWIDE FOOD SECURITY UPDATE

This week, the State Department of Agriculture distributed 1.2 million pounds of food, serving an estimated 171,000 clients. National Guard soldiers and airmen continue to support food banks statewide.

[Agricultural COVID-19 Requirements](#) and provide adequate educational materials in the language or languages employees understand. The kit is available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Employer Tax Credits Help Businesses Maintain Their Workforce, Permit Leave to Affected Workers

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has detailed two important tax credits for employers affected by the pandemic: the Credit for Sick and Family Leave and the Employee Retention Credit.

The Credit for Sick and Family Leave affords workers paid sick leave in the event that they must self-quarantine due coronavirus illness or symptoms. The credit also supports employees who cannot work in order to care for someone with the coronavirus, or care for children whose care provider is closed or unavailable.

The Employee Retention Credit may help businesses keep employees on the payroll as the economy gradually reopens. It is available to businesses fully or partially suspended by a government order or businesses with a significant decline in 2020 gross receipts. An [IRS infographic](#) details eligibility and exceptions for the credit.

[Visit the IRS website for details about the Credit for Sick and Family Leave and the Employee Retention Credit.](#)

Return-to-Work Resources Available to Employers and Workers

The Employment Security Department's nationally-recognized programs are helping businesses resume operations and workers return to the job as economic activity recovers in Washington State. ESD job-matching services, workforce preservation incentives, trainings, [economic analysis](#), and financial programs are vital resources while the economy is on the mend.

ESD's [employer resources](#) include [SharedWork](#), a workforce retention program allowing businesses to reduce employee hours and allowing them to collect partial unemployment and federal benefits as operations climb back to normal. The [Work Opportunity Tax Credit](#) is a tax incentive for employers to hire certain hard-to-place job seekers, facilitating their self-sufficiency and rewarding employers that give them a chance.

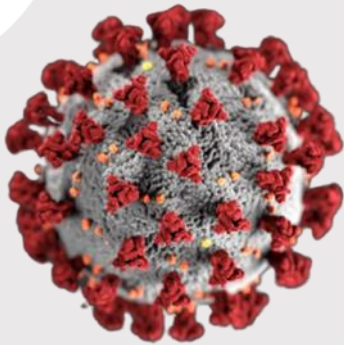
For workers, ESD offers [Labor Market & Economic Analysis](#) to observe hiring and workforce trends by industry. ESD's [Jobs and Training page](#) helps workers explore new career opportunities.

[WorkSourceWA.com](#) is connecting workers with prospective employers as the economy picks up steam. Employers can post unlimited job postings, automatically rank applicants, and compare candidates side-by-side. Job seekers can use advanced search tools to browse thousands of openings.

Statewide Food Security Update

This week, the state's Department of Agriculture distributed 1.2 million pounds of food, serving an estimated 171,000 clients. In addition, nearly 700 Washington National Guard soldiers and airmen continued to support food banks statewide by boxing nearly 3 million pounds of food and assembling more than 19,000 meals.

Since April, the state has supported a COVID-19 response partnership that distributed 471,710 Washington Emergency Food Boxes across the state. An additional 3,837 pallets of emergency food –the equivalent of 128 truckloads – has been distributed to backfill food donations that have declined sharply due to the pandemic.



THE STATE'S COVID-19 HOTLINE HAS NEW WEEKEND HOURS

Effective Saturday, June 20th, the state COVID-19 hotline will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Weekday hours remain the same.

RELIEF FOR TAXPAYERS AFFECTED BY COVID-19 WHO TAKE DISTRIBUTIONS OR LOANS FROM RETIREMENT PLANS

The IRS released Notice 2020-50 to help retirement plan participants affected by COVID-19 take advantage of the CARES Act provisions providing enhanced access to plan distributions and plan loans.

DRIVER LICENSING OFFICES BEGIN PHASED REOPENING BY APPOINTMENT

Starting Monday, June 22, Drivers licensing offices will reopen by appointment only as part of a phased return to more normal service. Online transactions are still encouraged.

The State's COVID-19 Hotline Has New Weekend Hours

Effective this Saturday, June 20th, the hotline will be open Saturdays and Sundays from 8 a.m. – 6 p.m. Weekday hours will remain the same, 6 a.m. – 10 p.m. 1-800-525-0127.

Relief for Taxpayers Affected By COVID-19 Who Take Distributions or Loans from Retirement Plans

The Internal Revenue Service today released [Notice 2020-50 \(PDF\)](#) to help retirement plan participants affected by the COVID-19 coronavirus take advantage of the CARES Act provisions providing enhanced access to plan distributions and plan loans. This includes expanding the categories of individuals eligible for these types of distributions and loans (referred to as "qualified individuals") and providing helpful guidance and examples on how qualified individuals will reflect the tax treatment of these distributions and loans on their federal income tax filings.

Employers, financial institutions, and individuals should refer to Notice 2020-50 for more details about how the CARES Act rules for coronavirus-related distributions and loans from plans apply.

This tax relief and other information related to the effects of COVID-19 on federal income tax is available on the IRS [Coronavirus Tax Relief](#) pages of IRS.gov.

[Read the full release.](#)

Driver Licensing Offices to Begin Reopening by Appointment Starting Monday, June 22

Driver licensing offices, largely closed since March 31 due to the COVID-19 pandemic, will reopen by appointment only in a series of stages beginning Monday, June 22. Health and safety measures will be taken by the Department of Licensing (DOL) to help protect both employees and customers at all locations. Customers are urged to go online or call the Customer Service Center (360-902-3900), if possible, to get what they need. [Online services](#) are regularly being expanded. **Appointments are for customers who cannot complete their transaction online, by phone, or by mail.** With social distancing in place, offices will be operating at significantly reduced capacity and appointments will be limited.

When More Offices Will Reopen

DOL is working to reopen all of their 55 driver licensing offices as quickly and safely as possible. The order is being determined by factors including geographic location, community access, volume history, capacity for safe delivery of service, weekdays open, and staffing considerations.

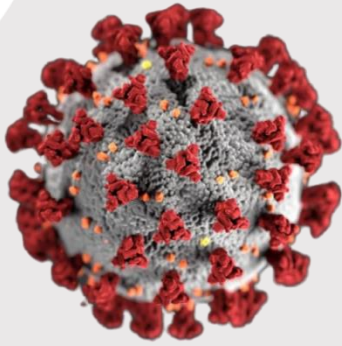
Washington driver licenses further extended due to DOL office closures

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic the DOL is continuing to extend the expiration dates of valid Washington state driver licenses. These automatic extensions apply to personal driver licenses that expire on or after March 1, 2020, through Sept. 30, 2020:

<https://licensingexpress.wordpress.com/2020/05/29/expired-or-expiring-soon-washington-driver-licenses-further-extended-due-to-dol-office-closures/>

Motorcycle Permits and Endorsements Now Available Online

Eligible Washington residents can now add motorcycle permits and endorsements to their driver license via DOL's [online services](#).



COVID-19

CONFIRMED AND PROBABLE CASES OF COVID-19 IN SNOHOMISH COUNTY

Data on case counts are available on the Snohomish Health District [website](#) and the Washington State Department of Health [dashboard](#).

ESSENTIAL LINKS AND PHONE NUMBERS FOR UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

- [Snohomish Health District](#)
- [Snohomish County](#)
- [Snohomish County COVID-19 Response & Community Resource Hub](#)
- [Washington State](#)
- [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)
- Snohomish County COVID-19 Phone Line: **425-388-3944**
- Washington State COVID-19 Hotline: Call **1-800-525-0127** or text **211-211 for help**. For information to be texted to you, text **Coronavirus** to **211-211**.

Appointments for commercial driver testing and commercial learners permits

Some licensing offices are already open to offer appointments for commercial driver knowledge tests and first-time commercial learners' permits: <https://info.dol.wa.gov/appointments-for-cdl-and-clp/>

Reduced Fee Identification Cards

In order to increase the ability for Washington's homeless population to receive a Washington Identification card (WA ID), [RCW.46.20.117](#) will be amended June 11, 2020 to change the age of eligible applicants from under 18 to under 25. Under certain circumstances, individuals can obtain a WA ID and only pay the cost of producing the card (currently \$5). The reduced fee is the same for original, renewal, or replacement WA ID cards. Click here for [additional details](#).

For more information please visit DOL's [webpage](#).

Confirmed and Probable Cases of COVID-19 in Snohomish County (as of June 19, 2020)

Case Count	Last Updated: 12:38 p.m.
Confirmed	3,235
Probable	444
Deaths	160

Jurisdiction	Last Updated: 1:45 p.m.
Arlington	132 (124 recovered)
Bothell*	229 (207 recovered)
Brier	23 (22 recovered)
Darrington	<5 (<5 recovered)
Edmonds	370 (317 recovered)
Everett	1,087 (898 recovered)
Gold Bar	<5 (<5 recovered)
Granite Falls	30 (30 recovered)
Index	0
Lake Stevens	132 (120 recovered)
Lynnwood	679 (607 recovered)
Marysville	301 (232 recovered)
Mill Creek	59 (50 recovered)
Monroe	95 (81 recovered)
Mountlake Terrace	120 (110 recovered)
Mukilteo	68 (61 recovered)
Snohomish	173 (154 recovered)
Stanwood	118 (94 recovered)
Sultan	9 (8 recovered)
Tulalip	25 (22 recovered)
Unknown/Other	<5 (<5 recovered)
Woodinville*	12 (11 recovered)
Woodway	8 (8 recovered)

Numbers less than 5 are suppressed to protect medical privacy. Unknown includes cases still under investigation. *Counts are for portions in Snohomish County only.