Introduction

The Program on the Environment’s Covid-19 Prevention Plan is based on guidance from Environmental Health & Safety’s University of Washington Covid-19 Prevention Plan for the Workplace (“University Plan”). These measures are intended to ensure the health and safety of PoE personnel by reducing Covid-19 transmission while working on campus. This plan is to be updated in accordance with changes in state and federal law and regulations, public health guidance, and University policy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Unit Name</td>
<td>Program on the Environment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Worksite Location(s)</td>
<td>Wallace Hall, Seattle Campus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Covid-19 Prevention Plan Location</td>
<td>Program on the Environment website, Program on the Environment mailroom</td>
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Management & Oversight

Covid-19 Prevention Plan Oversight

- The designated COVID-19 Site Supervisor (“the supervisor”) is assigned to ensure all the elements of the site-specific COVID-19 Prevention Plan are followed.
- The supervisor will keep the site-specific plan updated and current. The supervisor will communicate with personnel, personnel supervisors, and building coordinator(s) to keep unit and/or site-specific plans consistent with changes to COVID-19 guidelines, regulations, and University policies.
- The supervisor will train personnel on the contents of the plan and any updates.
- The supervisor will keep the site-specific plan on site in hardcopy, and the plan will also be available electronically on the Program website.
  - Announcements of site-specific updates to the COVID-19 Prevention Plan will be circulated via email to all department personnel.
- The supervisor is available to respond to issues and questions during work and class activities.
  - Supervisor will either be on-site or can be reached at cpeetz@uw.edu.
● The supervisor will acquire appropriate supplies as necessary to implement plan objectives.
● The supervisor will report COVID-19 safety concerns to the personnel supervisor or to EH&S.

Plan Elements (Required by the University)

- Vaccination
- Procedures for sick personnel, symptom monitoring, reporting and response
- Good hygiene
- Clean surfaces
- Face coverings, personal protective equipment (PPE) and alternative strategies
- Communication and training

Vaccination

- All University personnel and students are required to be vaccinated against COVID-19 unless a medical, religious, or philosophical exemption is declared (UW COVID-19 Vaccination Policy). All personnel must have submitted the University COVID-19 Vaccine Attestation Form in Workday by established deadlines.
  - Paper form or alternative method is used to verify vaccination status for personnel who do not have access to Workday.
- Personnel not verified to be fully vaccinated are required to wear a face covering.
- Contractors, vendors, and visitors are to be notified of the UW COVID-19 Face Covering Policy.

Procedures for Sick and Symptomatic Personnel

- University units are required to take measures to prevent sick personnel from entering the worksite, and reporting suspected and confirmed COVID-19 cases and close contacts to EH&S.

Practices for preventing individuals from coming to the site and/or working while sick

- Individuals are required to self-monitor daily. Individuals who are sick or experience any symptoms of Covid-19 will be asked to stay or return home, regardless of vaccination status and even if symptoms are mild.
- The supervisor will, as needed, consult with the Covid-19 Response and Prevention Team.
- The supervisor will discuss with the College Human Resources Manager any needs for accommodations for personnel at higher risk for severe infection.

Practices for responding to suspected or confirmed cases of Covid-19

- Personnel with symptoms or suspected COVID-19 are required to stay home.
University units are required to direct personnel to follow the steps in the FAQ “What do I do if I feel sick?”

These steps include the following:
  - If individuals are enrolled in the Husky Coronavirus Testing Program, they should report symptoms in the daily symptom survey, and wait for testing instructions.
  - If personnel are not enrolled in the Husky Coronavirus Testing program, individuals may get tested with a personal health care provider or at a public testing site.
  - Individuals will be instructed not to return to campus/on-site work until test results are available, even if symptoms improve.
  - Individuals should follow public health guidelines for recovery and prevention. These actions include staying home and physically away from people and pets, wearing a face covering, and being stringent about hygiene.
- If personnel test positive for Covid-19, they will be asked to report their test to the COVID-19 Response and Prevention Team as soon as possible and submit a Covid Notification Form.
  - Contact: covidehc@uw.edu or 206.616.3344.
  - The EHS Covid-19 Case Response website provides detailed information on case-follow up and protection of the individual’s private information.
- Inform personnel who have had close contact with someone with COVID-19 to stay home and notify the COVID-19 Response and Prevention Team (regardless of vaccination status).

Returning to Work after Confirmed Covid-19 Infection
- University Quarantine and Isolation Guidance recommends that individuals who have tested positive for Covid-19 stay home and self-isolate for 5 days, regardless of vaccination status and/or symptoms.
- The supervisor will provide UW Covid-19 Public Health requirements and Guidance to all individuals who have tested positive for Covid-19.
- The isolation period is defined as 5 days from the onset of symptoms, or, if asymptomatic, 5 days from a positive test date, or, as instructed by a contact tracer.
- After Day 5, individuals who have tested positive should continue to wear a well-fitting surgical mask or respirator when around others at home and in public for 5 additional days (through Day 10).
- During isolation, individuals should:
  - Complete the electronic survey provided by the Covid-19 Response and Prevention team.
  - Monitor symptoms.
- After Day 5, the individual must remain in isolation if:
  - Symptoms have not improved
○ The fever has not been reduced without the use of medications
○ If a rapid COVID Antigen test comes back positive at 5 days or after
○ If the above are true, isolation should continue through a full 10 days.

● **After Day 5, if the individual has been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and other symptoms have improved, the individual may return to work.**

● **A mask must be worn when around others through Day 10.**

● **Individuals should take the additional precautions through Day 10:**
  ○ Choose a well-fitting surgical mask or respirator
  ○ Avoid travel
  ○ Avoid spending time around individuals who are immunocompromised or at higher risk for severe disease, in nursing homes, and in other high-risk settings
  ○ Avoid places where one cannot wear a mask, such as restaurants and gyms; and avoid eating around others at work or home until a full 10 days have passed since the onset of symptoms.

● **Getting tested at the end of isolation is optional.**
  ○ If the individual has access to a test, has been fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication, and other symptoms have improved, they can take a Covid-19 antigen test at the end of the 5-day isolation period.
    ■ If the test is positive, individuals should continue to isolate until Day 10.
    ■ If the test is negative, the individual may end isolation.
    ■ If the test is negative, the individual should continue to wear a well-fitting surgical mask or respirator until Day 10.
    ■ Recovered individuals should not get tested with a PCR test for 90 days after symptoms.
  ○ Individuals should get retested if Covid-19 symptoms develop and more than 90 days have passed since the original symptoms began, as they may be infectious and need to isolate.
  ○ Per state and local public health guidelines, University units should not request a doctor’s note, a negative test result or positive antibody test following a report of COVID-19 illness. (Human Resources Assistance,” p. 12 of University Plan).

**Hygiene Practices**

● **Supervisors are required to remind personnel of hygiene practices that reduce the risk of spreading COVID-19.**

● **Best practices include:**
  ○ Washing hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, and especially after eating/handling food, drinking, contact with “high touch” surfaces, using the restroom, touching one’s eyes, nose or mouth (for example, after blowing one’s nose), and touching/removing PPE.
  ○ If water is not available, use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol content.
  ○ Avoiding touching one’s face (eyes, nose, or mouth) with unwashed hands.
○ Avoid physical contact with others outside of the home.
○ Avoiding contact with people who are sick.
○ Covering one's mouth and nose with your elbow or a tissue when coughing or sneezing, and immediately disposing of used tissue.

● Supervisor will ensure personnel have access to soap and running water to wash their hands. If access to these requires repair or modification, the supervisor will report to the personnel supervisor or building coordinator, as appropriate.
● Supervisor will encourage adherence to these practices through signage in common areas.
● Supervisor will ensure common areas are stocked with hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes.

Clean surfaces
● University units are required to clean (and disinfect as needed) worksite surfaces regularly in accordance with the University's COVID-19 Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol.
  ○ Supervisor will ensure unit compliance with the Cleaning and Disinfection protocol.
  ○ Common areas will be cleaned as scheduled by custodial and department staff.
● Units are required to provide cleaning and disinfection products, along with the appropriate PPE and instructions for the frequency and safe use of products.
  ○ Supervisor will provide supplies for spot cleaning.
  ○ Cleaning supplies will be available in all common areas of the department:
    ■ Alcohol solution with at least 70% alcohol (includes wipes)
    ■ EPA-registered disinfectant for use against SARS-CoV-2
● Private offices will be cleaned by their occupant.

Face coverings, personal protective equipment (PPE) and alternative strategies
● All individuals at a University location, including faculty, staff, students, contractors, vendors and visitors are required to observe the UW COVID-19 Face Covering Policy.
● Face coverings are required to be worn at the University of Washington, regardless of vaccination status:
  ○ Indoors when other people are present, and in all public and common areas, such as lobbies, hallways, stairways, restrooms, elevators, and in shared vehicles;
  ○ At any outdoor in-person event hosted or sponsored by the University or conducted on University of Washington premises with 500 or more people in attendance.
  ○ For other outdoor settings, face coverings are strongly recommended to be worn outdoors by all individuals, regardless of vaccination status, when in crowded
settings and in settings where there is a decreased ability to consistently maintain a physical distance between others.

- **Face coverings are required to be provided to personnel who are not fully vaccinated or choose to wear them voluntarily.**
  - Personnel must be trained on the proper use, care, storage and disposal of face coverings and PPE.
  - University units should refer to the [EH&S Guidance on Facemask Use for Preventing the Spread of COVID-19](https://ehandsafety.washington.edu/coronavirus/face-mask-use/) for training personnel on the selection, care and use of face coverings and facemasks.

- **Supervisor will:**
  - Ensure all individuals wear face coverings in areas where they are required regardless of vaccination status
  - Communicate through signage and other means to vendors, visitors, and the public on face covering requirements, as dictated by vaccination status or other space-use designations (health care, K-12 settings, etc.).

- In public spaces, vaccination status does not need to be verified for members of the public, customers, and visitors on campus. These individuals will be informed of any current face covering requirements by the host unit and/or via signs in and around University buildings.

- **No alternate strategies are necessary.**

### Communication and training

- **Units are required to communicate to personnel about COVID-19 prevention on campus, and train personnel on the contents of the University's COVID-19 Prevention Plan and the unit-specific COVID-19 Prevention Plan.**
  - Training must be documented.
  - The supervisor will send notices each time the PoE COVID Safety Plan is updated and signage will be present in and around the department as a constant reminder to observe all protocols.

- **The University’s COVID-19 Safety Training, Back to the Workplace, is required for all University personnel prior to or upon returning to on-site work.**
  - In addition, units are required to train personnel on the contents of the unit or site-specific COVID-19 Prevention Plan.
  - Unit or site-specific training is conducted before or on the first day of returning to work at a University location, reviewed as updates are made, to explain the protective measures in place for all personnel in a unit or worksite.
  - Personnel must be trained, even if they have been performing critical work on site at a UW work location.
  - Training is required to be provided in a terminology best understood by personnel.

- **Units are required to provide information about working safely with disinfectants.**
NOVEL CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) RESOURCES

CDC Coronavirus (COVID-19)

EPA Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2

OSHA COVID-19

UW DEOHS: Safer Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting Strategies to Reduce and Prevent COVID-19 Transmission

UW EH&S COVID-19 Health & Safety Resources

UW Novel coronavirus & COVID-19: facts and resources

UW Stay Healthy, Huskies - Toolkit Downloads (Posters, Media)

UW Clean and Safe Storefront

WA DOH – COVID-19

WA DOH – Face Covering Order

Washington Ready Reopening Guidance

Washington Ready Proclamation

Washington State COVID-19 Vaccination Requirement Proclamation

Washington State Higher Education Proclamation

Washington State Coronavirus Response

WA L&I DOSH DIRECTIVE 1.70 General Coronavirus Prevention Under Stay Home-Stay Healthy Order

WA L&I Coronavirus (COVID-19) Safety Topic

WA L&I Coronavirus (COVID-19) Prevention: General Requirements and Prevention Ideas for Workplaces

WA L&I Directive 11.80 Temporary Enforcement Guidance Annual Fit-Testing for N95 Filtering Facepieces and Respirator/Face Covering Selection During the COVID-19 Outbreak

Please contact EH&S at ehsdept@uw.edu or call 206.543.7262 with questions or for assistance. Concerns about COVID-19 safety can be reported anonymously on the EH&S website. This document will be updated as regulations and public health guidance change.