**COVID – 19 Vaccination Requirement for Healthcare Personnel**

**Proclamation 21 – 14:**

* Effective August 9, 2021 healthcare providers, employees, contractors, volunteers, and providers of goods and services who work in a healthcare setting, must be fully vaccinated against COVID – 19 by October 18, 2021, which will require that a final dose of the vaccine be administered by October 4, 2021.
* Requires operators of healthcare settings to verify the vaccination status of every employee, volunteer, and/or contractor who works in the healthcare setting regardless of whether they provide healthcare services or not.
* Additionally, includes all individuals who hold a healthcare profession credential regardless of where they work

**Proof of Vaccination Status:**

* Acceptable proof of full vaccination against COVID – 19 includes one of the following:
  + **CDC COVID – 19 Vaccination Record Card or photo of the card**
  + **Documentation of vaccination from a healthcare provider or electronic health record**
  + **State Immunization Information System Record**
  + **WA State Certificate of COVID – 19 Vaccination from MYIRmobile.com**
* Personal attestation will not be accepted as verification of vaccination status
* There is no exemption for individuals who are unvaccinated, but who were previously infected with COVID - 19
* **Please submit acceptable proof of vaccination to prior to October 18th 2021**.

**Process for Applying for Exemption from the COVID – 19 Vaccination Requirement:**

* Exemptions for vaccination requirements will only be reviewed and granted for **medical conditions** that prohibit vaccination specific to the COVID – 19 vaccine or a

**sincerely held** **religious belief** accommodation. There are no exemptions for personal or philosophical reasons.

* + Access Medical Exemption form (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
    - Authorized health care provider must complete
    - MD, DO, ARNP, PA, ND
  + Access Religious Exemption form (\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_)
* Please submit required forms to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_
  + Request will be reviewed and exemptions granted if warranted in compliance with applicable law
* Frequent COVID – 19 testing in lieu of vaccination or granted exemption is not allowed

**Additional Considerations for Healthcare Workers and Facility Operators:**

* A healthcare operator is prohibited from allowing an employee, volunteer, or contractor from engaging in work for them after October 18, 2021 if they are not fully vaccinated or granted an exemption.
* Willful violation of this proclamation by healthcare providers, workers and facilities constitutes a gross misdemeanor. Additional sanctions by state agencies against a facility’s license or a provider’s credential, including civil penalties, may be taken if they are found to be in violation of this proclamation.
* An employee who is terminated or quits for failing to comply with the vaccination requirement or obtain an acceptable exemption, will have claims denied by the Washington State Employment Security Department, unless the employee has unique circumstances outside of the vaccination mandate for healthcare settings.