Review of the Governor’s Proclamation concerning Institutes of Higher Education – July 12, 2021
The Governor amended a series of emergency proclamations, made over the last 15 months concerning Institutes of Higher Education, or IHEs. Establishes criteria for the return to ‘normal’ operations in support of in-person learning for the newly developing post-COVID operating environment. The proclamation was updated last night.

- **Proclamation 20-12.4 - Higher Education**
  - Amends Proclamations:
    - **20-05** – Coronavirus – State of Emergency -- February 29, 2020
    - **20-12** -- Colleges and University (Public and Private) operations – March 13, 2020
    - **20-25** – Stay Home, Stay Healthy – March 23, 2020
    - **20-12.1** – Higher Education – Fall 2020 -- June 24, 2020
    - **20-12.2** – Higher Education -- Fall 2020 – October 20, 2020
    - **20-12.3** - Higher Education – June 30, 2021
What Does the Proclamation Declare?

• IHEs may return to “in-person classroom instruction, lectures and similar educational gatherings”
• both public and private
• universities, colleges, community colleges, and technical colleges
• provided certain requirements are and continue to be satisfied
• More on that in a second…

WHAT DO COLLEGES NEED TO DO?

IHEs need to establish that they are a

FULLY VACCINATED CAMPUS

OR, if they choose, operate as a

NOT FULLY VACCINATED CAMPUS
What policy goal is driving the Proclamation?

It is focused on increasing overall vaccination rates...

...and believes IHEs are the place to find improvements in vaccine uptake

- 18+ years of age — ‘college demographic’
- Only 50 percent of 18 to 34 year olds in Washington are vaccinated
  - Pierce County – 39.1%
  - Source: Department of Health COVID Dashboard
- References ‘congregate living arrangements, including fraternities and sororities’
- Mirrors CDC Guidance for IHEs
So what are those “certain requirements?”

- **Fully Vaccinated Campus**
  - **What** - Must implement a policy requiring all members of student body, faculty, and staff be fully vaccinated against COVID-19
    - Fully Vaccinated using the commonly recited group of Moderna, Pfizer, and J&J
    - Exemptions allowed for medical, religious or philosophical reasons
  - **How** – The college must implement a method for gathering, confirming and reporting the vaccination status of students, faculty, and staff that are not exempt.
    - The process for determining/establishing exemption would need to be incorporated
  - **And the Masks?**
    - Yes, if unvaccinated and for visitors, volunteers, or contractors per DOH face covering order
  - **When** – the proclamation is effective immediately.
    - Systems required to gather and report data reduce pace of implementation
  - **Anything else** - Policies must include safety considerations for exempt people and others
And if you don’t want to be a ‘Fully Vaccinated Campus’?

• Non-vaccinated campuses
  • **MUST** > Maintain existing COVID-19 standards and protocols established consistent with all CDC and DOH standards.
  • **MUST** > Implement policies and procedures for determining vaccination status of students, faculty and staff
  • **Masks? ALL STAFF MUST wear masks &**
    College **MUST** enforce DOH **face covering order**
    EXEMPTIONS ONLY EXIST for persons who can verify they are fully vaccinated
  • **What about Students?** The college must verify the vaccination status of every student who participates with in-person learning and other related activities.
  • **Are there more MUSTs?**
    • Social distancing (3 feet), sanitation standards, Smart-Sheet check-ins, sign-in/contract tracing protocols, PPE requirements, all remain in place.
Questions?