

**AGRICULTURAL COVID-19 REQUIREMENTS and  
WACs 246-358-002 and 296-307-16102**

**INTERPRETIVE GUIDANCE**

*This guidance will be assessed, and potentially modified, routinely.*

**(a) Generally.**

(i) For purposes of this guidance, all Governor-issued **Agricultural COVID-19 Requirements** and **WACs 246-358-002** and **296-307-16102**, including the definitions used throughout, apply.

(b) **WACs 246-358-002(1)(g) and 296-307-16102(1)(g), the “Isolation Plan.”** A housing operator’s isolation plan for employees testing positive for COVID-19 may refer in whole or in part to the regional isolation center nearest the housing site.

**(c) Face Coverings under Agricultural COVID-19 Requirements, General Provisions, subsection (c).**

(i) Employees are free to wear homemade face coverings that meet the minimum requirements. This does not relieve employers of the obligation to provide face coverings to each employee who does not wish to wear a homemade version. Nor may an employer require employees to provide a homemade face covering.

(ii) Employers are required to ensure that employees have clean face coverings on a daily basis. For disposable face coverings, employers must provide new coverings each day. In order to prevent reusable face coverings from being utilized by multiple employees, employers may assign face coverings to employees for multi-day use. If not, employers must launder all face coverings daily.

Employers must maintain a sufficient supply of face coverings to replace lost, damaged, or worn-out reusable coverings.

**(d) Agricultural COVID-19 Requirements, Outdoor Worksites, section (1)(b), “Handwashing Stations.”**

(i) Consistent with WAC 296-307-09503, this section only applies to “employees engaged in hand-labor operations in the field.”

(ii) Any additional handwashing stations mandated by this section need not be plumbed or specially designed. Potable water, a closed container with a tap and lid, a wastewater basin, soap, and single-use hand towels will suffice. No heat source is required.

(e) **Transportation.**

- (i) Consistent with **Agricultural COVID-19 Requirements, Employer- and Operator- Provided Transportation, subsection (1)(a)**, any farming vehicle that is used solely by one individual need not be disinfected until or unless another individual intends to use the vehicle.

(f) **Isolation.** For purposes of **Agricultural COVID-19 Requirements, General Provisions for All Worksites and Work-Related Functions, subsection (p)(i)**,

- (i) A “licensed healthcare professional” means any of the following:

- (1) A registered nurse under chapter 18.79 RCW;
- (2) A physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW;
- (3) A physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW;
- (4) An osteopathic physician licensed under chapter 18.57 RCW;
- (5) An osteopathic physicians' assistant licensed under chapter 18.57A RCW;
- (6) An advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed under chapter 18.79 RCW; or
- (7) A paramedic or EMT, but only if the Medical Program Director, EMS administrator(s), and fire chief provide prior written authorization for the paramedics and EMTs under their command to fulfill the requirements of subsection (p)(i) of the **Agricultural COVID-19 Requirements, General Provisions for All Worksites and Work-Related Functions.**

- (ii) “At the employer’s expense” refers to the expenses incurred to monitor symptoms. This provision is not to be read to conflict with RCW 51.28.010(3), “claim suppression.” Instead, the requirement to *monitor symptoms* is a bona fide safety and accident prevention program. It does not inhibit a worker’s right to file a claim and to receive *medical treatment* under workers’ compensation if the claim is allowed.