



STATE OF WASHINGTON
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR JAY INSLEE

TO: Local Government Officials

FROM: Governor Jay Inslee

DATE: June 25, 2021

SUBJECT: Removing Capacity Limitations at Certain Cooling Centers

Beginning today, June 25, 2021, and persisting well into next week, meteorologists predict that temperatures will rise rapidly throughout the Pacific Northwest. Consequently, people living in the impacted region will be at high to very high risk of heat-related effects. In response, many local governments and non-profit organizations are mobilizing “cooling centers” to protect people from the weather.

Proclamations 20-05 and 20-25.13, “Healthy Washington – Roadmap to Recovery,” remain in force as of the date of this memo. To ensure sufficient access for all who may need relief from the heat, I hereby direct that any capacity limitation ordered under my COVID-19 emergency proclamations be suspended for all cooling centers owned or operated by non-profit or public entities.

For purposes of this memo, eligible cooling centers are those created, administered, or designated by a non-profit, state, or local government entity; e.g., a state agency, city, county, or other political subdivision, or an entity incorporated under the Washington Nonprofit Corporation Act or analogous law from another jurisdiction. The suspension of capacity limitations does not apply to private, for-profit businesses that offer air-conditioned spaces to the general public.

General questions about how to comply with safety practices can be submitted [here](#).

Reports of workplace health and safety violations should be directed to L&I’s Division of Occupational Health and Safety [here](#).

Reports of violations related to Proclamations 20-25, et seq. can be submitted [here](#).