



1525 Avenue D
Snohomish, WA 98290

*Snohomish County
Fire District #4*

**SNOHOMISH COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT NO. 4
RESOLUTION NO. 535**

**RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING VACCINATION REQUIREMENT
FOR HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS**

WHEREAS: On August 9, 2021 and August 20, 2021, Governor Jay Inslee issued Proclamation 21-14 and 21-14.1 requiring state employees and health care and long-term care providers to be fully vaccinated by October 18, 2021, which states, in part, the following:

1. After months of improving COVID-19 epidemiological conditions in Washington State, the emergence of highly contagious COVID-19 variants, including the “delta variant” that is at least twice as transmissible as the virus that emerged in late 2019, coupled with the continued significant numbers of unvaccinated people, have caused COVID-19 cases and hospitalizations to rise sharply among unvaccinated populations and have resulted in breakthrough infections in some fully vaccinated individuals;
2. COVID-19 vaccines are effective in reducing infection and serious disease, widespread vaccination is the primary means we have as a state to protect everyone, including persons who cannot be vaccinated for medical reasons, youth who are not eligible to receive a vaccine, immunocompromised individuals, and vulnerable persons including persons in health care facilities, long-term care facilities and other congregate care facilities from COVID-19 infections;
3. Widespread vaccination is also the primary means we have as a state to protect our health care system, to avoid the return of stringent public health measures, and to put the pandemic behind us;
4. COVID-19 vaccinations have been available in Washington State from December 2020 to the present, and since April 15, 2021, all Washingtonians over the age of 16 have been eligible to receive free COVID-19 vaccinations from a wide variety of providers at many locations;
5. Healthcare workers face COVID-19 exposures in a variety of healthcare settings, with those involving direct patient care likely at higher risk;
6. On July 6, 2021, the Office of Legal Counsel of the United State Department of Justice issued a legal opinion stating that federal and state governments were not prohibited by federal law from imposing vaccination mandates, even when the only vaccines available are those authorized under U.S. Food and Drug Administration Emergency Use Authorizations; and
7. On July 26, 2021, approximately 60 medical groups issued a memorandum supporting mandatory, universal vaccination of all public and private health care and long-term care workers, noting that such a requirement is the “fulfillment of the ethical commitment of all health care workers to put patients first and take all steps necessary to ensure their health and well-being”;

8. It is the duty of every employer to protect the health and safety of employees by establishing and maintaining a healthy and safe work environment and by requiring all employees to comply with health and safety measures; and

WHEREAS: Proclamation 21-14.1 prohibits non-vaccinated health care providers from providing patient care, and prohibits the District as the employer from allowing a non-vaccinated employee to engage in work that includes providing patient care

WHEREAS: The District employs employees and retains volunteers that meet the definition of Health Care Provider's that work in Health Care Settings as defined by Proclamation 21-14.1 and the District, its employees and volunteers are subject to Proclamation 21-14.1.


Resolution: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Board of Commissioners of Snohomish County Fire Protection District No. 4, in compliance with Proclamation 21-14, hereby adopts the Covid-19 Vaccination Requirement Policy attached hereto to remain in effect only to the extent required by Proclamation 21-14.1, as it may be updated and amended or until further revised and amended by action of the Board.

Adoption: ADOPTED by the Board of Commissioners of Snohomish County Fire Protection District No. 4, at an open public meeting of such Board on the 13th day of September 2021, the following Board members being present and voting:


James H. Schmoker, Jr., Chairman


Richard E. Flath, Commissioner


Evan Merritt, Commissioner

Attest: 
Donald D. Waller, District Secretary / Fire Chief