WSG Volunteer Program COVID-19 Safety Guidelines

April 2022

*This document is effective April 19, 2022 and supersedes the earlier COVID safety guidelines provided. The University of Washington (UW) has updated COVID safety guidelines since our August 2021 update. What does this mean for you as a WSG volunteer program participant?

The requirements outlined in these guidelines apply to WSG program participants who are serving as UW volunteers*. Partner staff who monitor for a WSG program during their work hours are required to follow their employers’ guidelines and requirements. Volunteers who participate in WSG programs through another organization are required to follow their organizations’ guidelines and requirements.

While not required, the recommendations are encouraged for all WSG program participants.

We encourage you to reach out if you have any questions about these guidelines. We value your safety above all else and want to make sure you feel comfortable as we move into this new phase.

Currently Required:

Vaccination Requirement
● According to Governor Inslee’s proclamation issued August 18, 2021, all volunteers of Washington higher education institutions must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Thus, for the 2022 monitoring season, all UW volunteers who participate in Washington Sea Grant volunteer programs (i.e. Crab Team and SoundToxins) must be fully vaccinated. At this time, “fully vaccinated” does not include a requirement for a booster. As always, all participation in sampling continues to be voluntary.

Complete Updated COVID-19 Safety Training
● All UW volunteers are required to review current UW training materials and confirm this completion using the following Google Form.
  ○ Google Form: https://forms.gle/ErZCMdxGAMwr25h16

*How do you know if you are serving as a UW volunteer? Did you fill out the WSG/UW volunteer paperwork? If so, then you are officially a UW volunteer, and you are covered by UW workers’ compensation for volunteer-related injuries. You are also required to follow all UW guidelines for volunteers.
Recommended (Not Required):

- **Physical distancing** - All participants are encouraged to distance if in a crowded setting or in areas that are not well ventilated.
- **Face coverings** - While optional, face coverings are encouraged where maintaining a physical distance between others is challenging.
- **Shared surfaces** - When sharing monitoring equipment, all participants are encouraged to sanitize equipment surfaces between use.

As always, we greatly appreciate your commitment to this work and your cooperation with our programs’ safety guidelines over years. These WSG guidelines will remain in effect until further notice.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to contact your program volunteer coordinator:

- Crab Team- Amy Linhart ([alinhart@uw.edu](mailto:alinhart@uw.edu))
- SoundToxins- Michelle Lepori-Bui ([soundtox@uw.edu](mailto:soundtox@uw.edu))

Warm regards,
Washington Sea Grant HQ