



International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local • 46
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July 19, 2022

Good afternoon, IBEW Local 46 Family!

Yesterday, we sent out several updates to the membership, including an update from the CDC on King County Covid Levels. Several questions have come in from the membership asking for clarification.

The IBEW Local 46 Covid Protocol follows the Washington State Labor and Industries (L&I) Safety Rules, and CDC guidance.

L&I CORE SAFETY RULES (WAC 296-800)

- 1) Provide a workplace free from recognized hazards (COVID is a recognized hazard)
- 2) Provide and use means to make your workplace safe

L&I GUIDANCE

COVID-19 remains a serious workplace hazard, and businesses must continue to reduce the risk of transmission for their workers. Risks vary from workplace to workplace. Tracking the [statewide COVID-19 community transmission levels](#) will help employers ensure their COVID-19 hazard assessment and controls are aligned with the latest data.

[COVID-19 by County | CDC](#)

CDC guidance **at High Community Level**

- Wear a [mask](#) indoors in public
- Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines
- [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms
- Additional precautions may be needed for people [at high risk for severe illness](#)

[The Local #46 Facial Covering Policy, updated 3/22/2022, states: "Facial coverings are required by CDC Guidelines in cases of "High" Community Levels...."](#)

Last Thursday, (July 14, 2022), the CDC updated their Community Level map. **King County is now classified as "High" Community Level.** The latest variant is spreading quickly with 95% of reported cases the BA-5 Omicron variant. This variant is also causing more severe symptoms, hospitalizations, and deaths.

As a result, we, unfortunately, must adhere to the CDC guidelines that require us to put our Mask Mandate back into effect. This mask requirement will remain in effect until the CDC lowers our Community Level classification. The CDC updates Community Levels every Thursday by 5:00 pm PDT.

All members, staff, and visitors entering the Kent Hall must now wear a mask.

Hopefully, the CDC will lower our classification on Thursday, and we can put our masks away again. If not, this practice shall remain, until further notice, in order help keep all members, staff, and visitors entering the Kent Hall safe.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the Local 46 Covid Supervisor, Warren Shill, at warren@ibew46.com or 206-249-6459.

Please visit the IBEW Local 46 website, mobile app, and your personal e-mail for official updates from the Business Office. If you have any questions, please contact the Hall and your direct Business Rep directly!

Thank you for your time and attention. Please take care and stay safe!

Sean Bagsby
Business Manager / Financial Secretary
IBEW Local 46