



Update - Stay Connected

April 21, 2021

Covid Leave Options

As more people return to the building, remember that we continue to implement Covid-19 health protocols including quarantining of those who show symptoms or may be exposed to Covid-19. The District and LWEA have negotiated numerous leave options for the unique situations posed by the pandemic and the differing instructional models. Please contact the Human Resources department for unique situations. As a reminder you may want to review page 64 in the [LWSD COVID Safety Manual](#).

COVID-specific leaves

Situation	Leave	Process
Denied access to your building?	None: you can work remotely from home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elementary: continue to work with your sub, engage with students/families, and complete other class-related and teacher-directed work. Secondary: teach remotely; district will provide sub in the classroom.
Are you sick with COVID?	Paid leave: most situations (unless it's a long-term leave).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request leave using form 6059 (check "other" and write in Emergency Health Leave) How many days will you isolate/quarantine? (most cases it's 10-14 days) Provide a doctor's note re: status (quarantining/isolating) <i>If you've tested positive for COVID:</i> attach attestation indicating COVID was contracted in workplace. Submit to supervisor
Feeling side effects of vaccination? Retroactive to Jan 1	Paid leave: up to 1 day of paid leave within 24-48 hours after vaccination. <i>You would use your own sick leave for any days needed beyond 1 day of paid leave.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Request leave using form 6059 (check "other" and write in Side Effects from COVID Vaccination) Attach documentation of inoculation date Submit to supervisor
Scheduled vaccination appointment during the work day?	Paid leave: half or full day of paid leave, including leave on short notice should you secure a last-minute appointment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If needed, schedule (half or full day request) a sub in Frontline: CVR as absence reason, or enter absence into Employee Access Complete request leave form 1235 Submit to supervisor



1235 Release Time Request and Approva



6059 - Employee Request for Leave.pdf

Additional resources for types of leaves and answers to your questions:

[Leave Types Available to LWSD Employees](#)

[Emergency Health Leave FAQ](#)



HOW MUCH PPE SHOULD I BE WEARING?

OSPI, DOH, and the Department of Labor & Industries developed [rules and guidance for wearing PPE in school settings](#). Our District's [Safety Plan](#) communicates the safety expectations and practices to be implemented in our schools in order to protect staff, students, and the community, including the practices for PPE.

PPE-by-Task Self-Assessment

Staff who are in-person should use the [OSPI/DOH/L&I guide](#) to conduct a **PPE-by-Task Self-Assessment**. As a general rule of thumb, as your risk increases so does your PPE. Risk increases when distancing cannot be maintained and when face coverings cannot be worn. **Review the PPE-by-task assessment guide to determine what additional PPE you may need for your work with students in the classroom.** Specialized PPE will be provided for instances of a qualified exemption for wearing a face covering.

Universal Masking Expectations at LWSD Facilities

- **PPE must be worn by all individuals while at LWSD facilities, including outdoor common areas.** There are very [specific and limited circumstances](#) for when a mask can be temporarily removed. *Even groups of staff who are fully vaccinated must wear masks when meeting in groups in LWSD facilities. This is a requirement from Seattle-King County Public Health, who holds schools to the highest safety standards.*
- **PPE must be worn properly.** This includes wearing face coverings over the nose and mouth. Gators, bandanas, scarves, or masks with ventilators are not acceptable forms of face coverings.
- **PPE must be worn according to the task.** As the risk transmission of a school setting increases, additional or specialized PPE is required. A staff member cannot “opt out” of wearing the minimum required PPE in any particular setting.
- **Anyone who qualifies for an exemption from wearing a cloth mask will be provided an alternative face covering as an accommodation.** You should not see adults without face coverings on your school campus. Staff, including subs, should be notified in advance if a student has a qualified exemption for face coverings. Please [report concerns](#) about masking to your site supervisor immediately.

Today is Administrative Professional Day

Be sure to thank your support staff, they are the ones who really keep the buildings and district running!!

Your dedication to our staff, students and community is so appreciated.

Thank you

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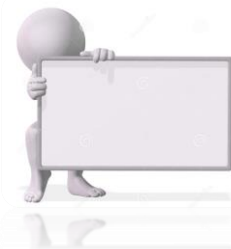
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this is your union!**



STEM Certificate Renewal Requirement

To renew STEM certificates, teachers with STEM-related endorsements must complete 15 clock hours, the equivalent in credits, or one goal from a professional growth plan (PGP) demonstrating the integration of two STEM components (science, technology, engineering, math). This policy was set by the Legislature. Teachers with the relevant endorsements and certificates expiring June 30, 2021, who do not meet the requirement, will have their certificates lapse. This is the first year that teacher certificates may expire for this reason. Teachers may not serve without a valid certificate.

Who needs to meet this requirement?

Teachers with one or more of the following endorsements must meet this requirement:

- Agriculture Education
- Business and Marketing Education
- Computer Science
- CTE (All Areas)
- Designated Sciences: Biology, Chemistry, Earth & Space Science; Physics
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Family and Consumer Sciences Education
- Mathematics; Middle Level Mathematics
- Science; Middle Level Science
- Technology Education

Note that whether or not a teacher needs to meet this requirement depends on the endorsements on his or her certificate, not on the job assignment.

NBCTs meet the STEM certificate renewal requirement by maintaining a valid National Board certificate.

When recording the clock hours, credits, or PGPs in OSPI eCertification, teachers will check a box confirming they met the STEM certificate renewal requirement. OSPI may audit educator records.

How can teachers find professional learning to meet this requirement?

Professional learning may be offered by approved clock hour providers, including school districts, ESDs, and many professional associations. Credits from an accredited college or university can also be used to meet this requirement.

Can a PGP be used to meet this requirement?

Yes, a teacher can meet this requirement by developing and implementing a PGP goal that integrates two of the STEM components. The educator may implement the STEM activity in a classroom or other educational setting, such as a professional learning event, and collect evidence of their PGP implementation. Find out more about developing PGPs, including sample STEM PGPs.

For further information click on the [STEM Renewal](#) link.

Marketplace

Ads are run in the Update on a first come, first served basis. All ads must include a home email and/or phone number. Send directly to [Terri Neely](#) in the LWEA office.

All ads are subject to the approval of the LWEA Executive Committee and may be edited for length.



Apr 21
TE Directed LEAP

Apr 21
Admin Professional Day

Apr 22
Earth Day

Apr 27
Competency Teams Mtg

May 4
National Teacher Day



Educators of Color

Dear Friends,
Please mark your calendars! **Our next gathering will take place on May 6th. We are so excited to discuss our next topic: Self-Care for BIPOC with Cultures Connecting.** We look forward to gathering soon!

Student Debt Forgiveness Campaign – ACTION NEEDED

Momentum is building behind NEA's campaign demanding that the new administration forgive student loan debt (<https://educationvotes.nea.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/FINAL-labor-letter-on-emergency-PSLF-action.pdf.pdf>). Allies are joining the call (<https://protectborrowers.org/advocates-pslf-letter/>), and the press is now describing the "mounting pressure" on the Administration to act (<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/04/13/pressure-mounts-for-biden-to-forgive-student-debt-.html>).

Make no mistake – the stakes in this for our members are huge. According to recent NEA polling:

- **45% of educators took out student loans**
- **More than half of them are still paying them off**
- **Their average debt is \$58,700, and**
- **African American educators both needed to take out more student loans, and have higher amounts of outstanding debt**

If you think about our active membership, it means that **broad-based student loan forgiveness could be a life-changing event for literally more than a half a million of our members. But even more so if they have been involved in the fight!**

Quickly go to <https://educationvotes.nea.org/issue/higher-education/> to send your own letter to Secretary Cardona telling your story, and to stay up to date on the latest developments.

A Friend in Need

Christine Winterbrook - K5HC Team Member in Accelerated Programs – Christine is currently undergoing chemotherapy and recovering from radiation therapy for Stage IV metastatic non-small cell lung cancer. With a modified treatment plan she is continuing to undergo chemotherapy while being closely monitored in case of a recurrence of kidney failure due to treatment. **She appreciates the donations of shared leave that she has already received but, due to the set back of treatment, is in need of additional donations.** "I am blown away by the generosity of our LWEA members. I feel so fortunate to be a part of our district and LWEA. Thank you for all that you do!" ❤️❤️❤️

Please consider a [Shared Leave Donation](#) by filling out the donation form and sending it to HR. Thank you.