

## Return to Work Update - May 15, 2020

**DQAC** – The [Dental Quality Assurance Commission \(DQAC\)](#) cancelled today's rescheduled meeting due to attendance registration maximums being met. The rules around public meetings are very strict and must be followed. The agenda included the opportunity for WDHA to share the input received from you, the stakeholders, that was collected over the last week. When the next date is scheduled, WDHA is asking that you not register to attend and allow the business of the commission to take place. This is a crucial part of the process and is needed in order to move forward. WDHA is committed to keeping you updated so a notice will be sent out after the meeting so that all stakeholders are informed of any pertinent changes. Also, DQAC does not have proclamation or mandate authority. Their authority pertains to rule writing.

**PROCLAMATION** – The current proclamation, 20-24, and both of the Interpretive Statements from Governor Inslee, are set to expire at midnight on May 17, 2020. WDHA has been working with the Phased Approach Task Force to Restarting WA Health Care Systems since receiving the invitation to take part in the discussions last week. The WDHA final document was submitted Wednesday and included all the concerns we have been hearing from hygienists across the state about PPE requirements and availability, COVID-19 testing, safe work environments, and other return to work issues. Once the Governor receives the final document from the Task Force, he will decide if another proclamation is warranted and what is to be included. Unfortunately, it is very likely an announcement could take place on Sunday so please stay tuned. We will be posting and updating you as we receive the information.

**ADVOCACY** - In addition to our work with the Task Force, we are also in conversations with the Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA) department and continue to work closely with the Dental Hygiene Examining Committee (DHEC) and DQAC committees. Today, ADHA sent out a Congressional Call to Action to amplify the concerns around PPE and the hazards around our profession. Utilize the link <https://bit.ly/2LzF4Op> to share your thoughts and concerns.

**THANK YOU!** – WDHA appreciates the trust you have shown by sharing your concerns and joining your voice with ours. Together we make a bigger impact for change.

[WDHA Covid-19 Resource Page](#)



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