

**UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
CONSENT FORM**

**HEALTH AND SAFETY PERCEPTIONS OF KING COUNTY EMPLOYEES DURING
COVID-19**

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Please note we cannot guarantee the confidentiality of communication sent via email.

We are asking you to complete a survey as part of a research study. The following page gives you information to help you decide whether or not to be in the study.

Completing this survey is voluntary. Please read the following information carefully. You may ask any questions of the Study Contact before completing the survey, and come back to this link to take the survey after your questions are answered.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the health and safety of county employees is paramount, as these workers are needed to ensure continuity of county services and programs. We are surveying King County employees to learn more about health and safety needs and concerns.

Given the varied nature of jobs in which county employees work, surveying county workers allows for a cross-sector analysis of workplace health and safety practices and needs for King County workers which can aid in the development of policies or practices that could ultimately benefit workers' countywide, across both private and public sectors. The survey will assess health and safety practices, concerns, and needs, concerns about returning to work, feelings around stress and anxiety, and other related topics.

STUDY PROCEDURES

To participate in this study, you must be a King County employee in any job classification at the time you take the survey. You will be asked to complete one survey, which will take you about 15 minutes to complete. It can be taken during work time. It can be taken on a computer or a mobile device. The survey is described below:

Health and Safety Perceptions Survey: The survey will include questions about your feelings on health and safety in your workplace, your feelings of stress, what practices and policies are in place for you during COVID-19, what practices and policies you would like in your workplace, and, if applicable, questions about working from home and returning to the office during COVID-19. You may refuse to answer any question in the questionnaire.

RISKS, STRESS, OR DISCOMFORT

You may feel uncomfortable sharing your perceptions and thoughts with a research team via the survey. You may feel uncomfortable sharing information about your employer. Participation is completely voluntary and you are welcome to stop the survey at any time. All questions on the

survey are optional, and you do not have to answer any question that you are uncomfortable with. Your employment with King County and all the benefits you receive from your job, is in no way dependent on your participation in this study. King County will not know which employees took the survey, and which employees did not take the survey.

BENEFITS OF THE STUDY

You will not receive direct benefit from participating in this study. The indirect benefit of participation is that you be informing research that will be used to develop policies and practices that help workers feel safer at work, and as they return to work, during the COVID-19 pandemic

CONFIDENTIALITY OF RESEARCH INFORMATION

You will not be asked to provide any direct identifiers in the survey (name, address, phone number, email address, etc.). However, some of the demographic information, when coupled with your work unit, may be identifiable in some instances for some respondents. To protect your identifiable information, all survey data will be stored on secure UW servers. Data can only be accessed by UW researchers with a password, and only UW researchers will have access to individual demographic data.

Government or university staff sometimes review studies such as this one to make sure they are being done safely and legally. If a review of this study takes place, your records may be examined. The reviewers will protect your privacy. The study records will not be used to put you at legal risk of harm.

USE OF INFORMATION

Results from this survey will not be returned directly to you. Results from this survey will be shared with the King County Auditor's Office (KCAO). No potentially identifiable data will be shared with KCAO.

Results will be published in peer-reviewed academic journals and as a report that could be available on the King County website. Results reported will be aggregated over groups, and no personal data or identifiable data will be reported.

Subject's statement

By checking the box below and proceeding to the survey, I consent to the following:

This consent form has explained the survey to me. I volunteer to take part in this survey. I have had a chance to have my questions answered about the survey. I understand that all questions on this survey are optional. If I have questions later about the survey, or if I have been harmed by participating in this study, I can contact the researchers listed on the first page of this consent form. If I have questions about my rights as a research subject, I can call the Human Subjects Division at (206) 543-0098. I can access a copy of this consent from the study website. If you do not consent to taking the survey, please close this survey window.