

April 3, 2019

Union ★
Update

OPEIU
Local



for OPEIU Local 8 members at Sea Mar

We are still bargaining with Sea Mar Administration, and our focus continues to be on Sea Mar's response to COVID-19. We have met twice this week and will be meeting again today, Friday April 3.

We continue to bargain and are working hard to reach an agreement with Sea Mar on the following items-

- Maintain healthcare benefits for all staff working reduced schedules. Sea Mar has verbally agreed to do this through May
- Allow input from staff with reduced schedules in order to provide equitable rotation
- Provide more opportunities for staff to work remotely and expand teleworking capabilities
- Pay additional compensation for employees working on-site
- Paid administrative leave for employees who are required to quarantine
- Seek volunteers from employees who may be interested in being laid off
- Provide telework and lay-off priorities to high-risk employees (as defined by the CDC) and employees with seniority

ATTENTION!

If your hours have been reduced and you are on an unpaid status, you should apply for unemployment benefits online at www.esd.wa.gov immediately, or as soon as you have been rotated off. Governor Jay Inslee has waived the one-week waiting period to receive unemployment benefits and Sea Mar cannot force you to exhaust your PTO. You should apply for Partial Employment Status.

RESOURCES

OPEIU Local 8's website contains valuable information to help you through the COVID-19 crisis. Check our [COVID-19 Information](#) page.

<https://www.opeiu8.org/Home/COVID-19Information.aspx>

What if I am considered an Immune-compromised person because I am considered High Risk (pregnant, over 65 years of age, weakened immune systems, or have underlying medical conditions such as diabetes, heart and lung diseases)?

If this applies to you, you can self-quarantine and apply for unemployment under the Emergency rule.

<https://esd.wa.gov/unemployment>

You may qualify for Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), called Basic Food in Washington State.

Your Basic Food benefits are based on your family size and income. Use the link below to the Basic Food online benefit estimator to see if you qualify during this time.

https://www.dshs.wa.gov/sites/default/files/ESA/csd/documents/bfcalculator/bf_benefit_estimator.htm

Basic Food information:

<https://www.dshs.wa.gov/esa/community-services-offices/basic-food>

Questions? Contact your Union Representatives:

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Visit our website



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