

Union ★ Update

OPEIU
Local



For Local 8 Members at Seattle Housing Authority

September 16, 2021

OPEIU LOCAL 8 is actively in negotiations with SHA over the impact and implementation of the new mandatory vaccine policy. This is a time-sensitive matter as deadlines loom.

Our recent survey results confirmed our thoughts. Feelings on this topic are divided with strong feelings on both sides:

- 64% support the vaccine mandate.
- 61% support a testing alternative.
- 64% believe SHA's timeline on this issue is reasonable.

In addressing these concerns, we proposed:

- **The option for a testing alternative**
- **A \$500 lump sum bonus for all employees who are/become full vaccinated by November 1, 2021**
- **Continued prioritization of telework and alternative schedules**
- **A process to appeal exemption denials**
- **Eligibility for rehire if an employee is separated from employment for not complying with the mandatory vaccine policy but then becomes fully vaccinated**
- **Paid leave to receive the vaccination doses**
- **Paid leave to recover if there are adverse effects**

SHA has clearly indicated they are not interested in offering a testing option. Their reasons for this include the time and resources that would be expended, the unreliability of results, the lag time, etc.

These discussions will continue and we'll bring you more information as we have it. In addition, you will be receiving a pre-bargaining survey in the next few days for our upcoming contract bargain as well as membership meeting dates.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns please contact your Union Representative, Valarie Peaphon, at valarie@opeiu8.org.



OFFICE AND PROFESSIONAL EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION LOCAL 8
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