

STATE OF WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION

Tony Evers, Governor Joel Brennan, Secretary

September 9, 2021

State Senate Majority Leader Devin LeMahieu Room 211 South, State Capitol P.O. Box 7882 Madison, WI 53707

Dear Senator LeMahieu,

Thank you for your letter yesterday regarding the Department of Administration's policy regarding state employee vaccine status. As you know, Wisconsinites are unfortunately facing another COVID-19 surge, this time due to the highly contagious Delta variant. The signs of this surge are obvious: Wisconsin hospitals are reporting that ICU beds are filling up; we're seeing an average of almost 1,600 new confirmed cases of COVID-19 per day; and every county in Wisconsin has high or very high levels of COVID-19 disease activity.

Throughout this pandemic, we have taken a measured approach to responding to the pandemic based on science and guidance from public health experts. Part of that process is gathering the information necessary to make informed decisions on how to best stop the spread of COVID-19. As was noted in our updated guidance for state workers, our goal is to provide a safe environment for our more than 30,000 state workers, as well as the contractors, interns, and volunteers we work with, and the Wisconsinites we serve. Indeed, it is our constitutional and statutory obligation to do so. I've attached a copy of the guidance here for your convenience.

Sincerely,

Joel T. Brennan

Secretary

Wisconsin Department of Administration

Enclosure: <u>Stop the Spread – State Government Edition – Employee/Supervisor Guidance (Effective 8/23/2021)</u>