

Due to the Governor's direction and the need to help address the spread of COVID-19, the Department of Fish and Wildlife has cancelled all in-person hunter education classes.

So, now what? OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE!

- **Online course:** You may take the online hunter education course and a Virtual Field Day. The Virtual Field Day replaces the in-person Field Skills Evaluation during the COVID-19 emergency. This course takes approximately 10 hours to complete, but students can complete it in multiple sittings.
Steps:
 1. Complete course 1:
 - Register for and complete the online hunter education course at <https://www.hunter-ed.com/washington/>.
 2. Complete course 2:
 - Next, register for and complete the online Virtual Field Day course at <https://www.huntercourse.com/virtualfieldday/>. (Note, the VFD course completion certificate is NOT VALID for a license purchase).
 3. Sign your hunter-ed.com certificate
 - Upon completing the Virtual Field Day course, please sign into <https://www.hunter-ed.com/washington/> to print and sign your course completion certificate. This will serve as your official certificate (once signed, is VALID for license purchase).
 4. You will also receive an orange postcard-type hunter education certificate in the mail at a later date.
- **Hunter Education Deferral:** You may qualify for the Hunter Education Deferral, which allows a one-year, once-in-a-lifetime deferral of hunter education training for individuals new to hunting who are accompanied by an experienced hunter. Note that this is a one-time deferral and is not available if you have taken a deferral in a prior year even if you did not purchase a license. There are other requirements, so please review them at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/deferral-program>. Applications are submitted and processed via email, which currently takes 1-2 days. Once approved, you can pay for the deferral and purchase a hunting license online or at a license dealer. **At this time, please do not send your application through the U.S. Postal Service.**
- **Enroll in a later course:** You may choose to postpone completion of hunter education and enroll in class after the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. Both the traditional classroom course and the online class plus in-person field skills evaluation course will be available.

If you need assistance, please email huntered@dfw.wa.gov, or call 360-902-8111. Be aware Hunter Education staff are working remotely and will respond to emails and phone messages as soon as possible.

We apologize for any inconvenience this has caused. We will do everything we can to assist you during this challenging time to help you get outdoors.

Wishing you good health, and good, safe hunting!