



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Olympia, Washington 98504

NOTICE OF ADOPTION OF A POLICY STATEMENT

Title of Policy Statement: Provisional Requirements for Substance Use Disorder Professional Apprenticeship Programs | Policy Number: SUDP-21-01

Issuing Entity: The Department of Health

Subject Matter: The Department of Health requirements and process for provisional approval of substance use disorder professional apprenticeship programs under Engrossed House Bill 1311.

Effective Date: July 25, 2021

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Department of Health
Health Systems Quality Assurance
Policy Statement

Revised – 10/18/11

<i>Title:</i>	Provisional Requirements for Substance Use Disorder Professional Apprenticeship Programs.	<i>Number:</i> SUDP-21-01
<i>References:</i>	Engrossed House Bill 1311 (chapter 165, Laws of 2021), chapter 18.130 RCW , chapter 18.205 RCW , RCW 18.205.090 , RCW 18.205.095 , chapter 246-811 WAC , WAC 246-811-010 , WAC 246-811-030 , WAC 246-811-048 , and WAC 246-811-049 .	
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<i>Supersedes:</i>	N/A	
<i>Approved By:</i>	Christie Spice, Acting Assistant Secretary	

It is the Department of Health’s (DOH) position that organizations may apply for provisional approval as a substance use disorder professional (SUDP) apprenticeship program under [Engrossed House Bill \(EHB\) 1311](#), passed during the 2021 legislative session and effective July 25, 2021, in accordance with this policy statement.

During the 2021 session of the Washington Legislature, [EHB 1311](#) amended [RCW 18.205.090](#) and [RCW 18.205.095](#) to add apprenticeships as an additional pathway to certification as an SUDP. Under [EHB 1311](#), apprenticeship programs must be reviewed, approved, and registered by multiple agencies and entities, including:

- Review of the proposed apprenticeship program by the Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee,
- Approval of the proposed apprenticeship program’s educational requirements by the Secretary of Health, and
- Registration and approval of the proposed apprenticeship program by the Department of Labor & Industries (L&I).

DOH is implementing [EHB 1311](#) by amending [chapter 246-811 WAC](#), Substance Use Disorder Professionals and Substance Use Disorder Professionals Trainees, to adopt permanent standards and procedures for SUDP apprenticeship program educational requirements. While the DOH is collaborating with SUDPs, partners, and other interested parties in the permanent rulemaking process, organizations planning to develop an SUDP apprenticeship program may apply for approval under the provisional standards.

It is the DOH’s position that an organization may apply for provisional approval for an SUDP apprenticeship program by following the Provisional Requirements for Substance Use Disorder

Professional Apprenticeship Programs process included below. This provisional approval enables the applicant program to proceed with the L&I registration and approval process. After approval by L&I, the applicant program may begin operation as an SUDP apprenticeship program while permanent rules regulating SUDP apprenticeship programs are still in development. After DOH rules are finalized and adopted, an apprenticeship program approved under the provisional standards must reapply for approval. DOH then re-evaluates the educational requirements of the apprenticeship program and provides guidance on any necessary changes. DOH will provide a grace period for a provisionally approved program to come into compliance with [chapter 246-811 WAC](#), including all new rule language adopted to implement [EHB 1311](#).

In conclusion, organizations may apply for provisional approval as an SUDP apprenticeship program and operate the program in accordance with this policy statement. After DOH collaborates with SUDPs, partners, and other interested parties and adopts permanent rules on SUDP apprenticeship programs in [chapter 246-811 WAC](#), provisionally approved apprenticeship programs must reapply for approval under the new standards.

Provisional Requirements for Substance Use Disorder Professional Apprenticeship Programs

1. **Application process.** An apprenticeship program must apply to DOH and L&I for approval.
 - a. An applicant apprenticeship program (applicant) must complete L&I's [application process](#).
 - b. The applicant must provide the completed L&I application packet to DOH for review and approval.
 - i. The applicant must contact DOH by email at SUDApprenticeships@doh.wa.gov to submit application materials and schedule time at a Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee meeting.
 - ii. The applicant must present the proposed apprenticeship program at a meeting of the Substance Use Disorder Certification Advisory Committee for review and comment.
 - c. DOH reviews and provides guidance on necessary changes to the applicant's proposed educational program within 90 days of receipt. If necessary, DOH provides guidance on changes necessary to meet provisional educational requirements.
 - d. After DOH approves an applicant's educational program, the applicant continues the L&I registration and approval process.
2. **Required classroom hours.** Minimum education requirements for successful completion of a provisionally approved apprenticeship program are at least:
 - a. 45 quarter credits provided at an approved school under [WAC 246-811-010](#);
 - b. 30 semester credits provided at an approved school under [WAC 246-811-010](#); or
 - c. 450 hours of apprenticeship classroom instruction provided by an approved supervisor under [WAC 246-811-049](#) or an active SUDP credentialed for at least 3 years under [chapter 246-811 WAC](#).
3. **Required coursework.** Required credits or classroom instruction hours must cover all subjects relating to the substance use disorder profession listed in [WAC 246-811-030 \(2\)](#)
4. **Requirements for apprentices.** An apprentice participating in a provisionally approved apprenticeship program must:
 - a. Obtain a Substance Use Disorder Professional Trainee (SUDPT) certificate by completing DOH's [application process](#);

- b. Keep the SUDPT certificate active and in good standing for the duration of the apprenticeship; and
 - c. Meet all other requirements in [chapter 18.130 RCW](#), [chapter 18.205 RCW](#), and [chapter 246-811 WAC](#), such as the requirements for experience and supervision under an approved supervisor in [WAC 246-811-048](#) and [WAC 246-811-049](#).
5. **Compliance with final apprenticeship program standards.** An apprenticeship program approved under these provisional requirements must reapply to DOH when final rules for apprenticeship programs are adopted in [chapter 246-811 WAC](#).