

## Chapter 246-928 WAC

### RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONERS

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#### WAC

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Authority: Chapter 18.89 RCW and RCW 43.70.040. WSR

95-18-019, § 246-928-015, filed 8/24/95, effective

9/24/95.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01,

effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW

18.89.050(1).

246-928-020 Recognized educational programs—Respiratory care

practitioners. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050.

WSR 92-15-032 (Order 285), § 246-928-020, filed

7/7/92, effective 8/7/92. Statutory Authority: RCW

43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as

§ 246-928-020, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.

Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-10-015

(Order 724), § 308-195-020, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed

by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.

Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-030 State examination—Examination waiver—Examination application deadline. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 92-02-018 (Order 224), § 246-928-030, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-030, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 89-09-006 (Order PM 832), § 308-195-030, filed 4/7/89; WSR 88-10-015 (Order 724), § 308-195-030, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-040 Examination eligibility. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-040, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-10-015 (Order 724), § 308-195-040, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed

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by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.

Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-050 Definition of "commonly accepted standards for the profession." [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040.

WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-050, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-10-015 (Order 724), § 308-195-050, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-060 Grandfather—Verification of practice. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-060, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-10-015 (Order 724), § 308-195-060, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-070 Grandfather—Examination dates. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-070, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-23-001 (Order PM 787), § 308-195-070, filed 11/3/88; WSR 88-10-015 (Order 724), § 308-195-070, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed by WSR 92-02-018 (Order 224), filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050.

246-928-080 Reciprocity—Requirements for certification. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-080, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-10-015 (Order 724), § 308-195-080, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-085 Temporary permits—Issuance and duration. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.050 and [18.130].075. WSR 92-15-032 (Order 285), § 246-928-085, filed 7/7/92, effective 8/7/92.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-090 Certification renewal registration date. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-090, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-10-015 (Order 724), § 308-195-090, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed by WSR 98-05-060, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280.

246-928-100 Rural hospital exemption. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-100, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 88-10-015



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(Order 724), § 308-195-100, filed 4/27/88.] Repealed  
by WSR 92-02-018 (Order 224), filed 12/23/91,  
effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW  
18.89.050.

246-928-110 General provisions. [Statutory Authority: RCW  
18.89.050, 18.130.050 and 18.130.070. WSR 92-02-018  
(Order 224), § 246-928-110, filed 12/23/91,  
effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW  
43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as  
§ 246-928-110, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.  
Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092  
(Order PM 842), § 308-195-120, filed 6/30/89.]  
Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective  
6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-120 Mandatory reporting. [Statutory Authority: RCW  
43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as  
§ 246-928-120, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.  
Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092

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(Order PM 842), § 308-195-130, filed 6/30/89.]

Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective

6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-130 Health care institutions. [Statutory Authority: RCW

43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as

§ 246-928-130, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.

Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092

(Order PM 842), § 308-195-140, filed 6/30/89.]

Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective

6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-140 Respiratory care practitioner associations or

societies. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR

91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-140,

filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory

Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092 (Order PM

842), § 308-195-150, filed 6/30/89.] Repealed by WSR

01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.

Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-150 Professional liability carriers. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-150, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092 (Order PM 842), § 308-195-160, filed 6/30/89.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-160 Courts. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-160, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092 (Order PM 842), § 308-195-170, filed 6/30/89.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-170 State and federal agencies. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-170, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.

Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092

(Order PM 842), § 308-195-180, filed 6/30/89.]

Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective  
6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-180 Cooperation with investigation. [Statutory  
Authority: RCW 18.89.050, 18.130.050 and 18.130.070.  
WSR 92-02-018 (Order 224), § 246-928-180, filed  
12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority:  
RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified  
as § 246-928-180, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.  
Statutory Authority: RCW 18.130.070. WSR 89-14-092  
(Order PM 842), § 308-195-190, filed 6/30/89.]  
Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective  
6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-190 AIDS prevention and information education  
requirements. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280.  
WSR 98-05-060, § 246-928-190, filed 2/13/98,  
effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: RCW

18.89.050 and 70.24.270. WSR 92-02-018 (Order 224),

§ 246-928-190, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92.

Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049

(Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-190, filed

12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority:

RCW 70.24.270. WSR 88-22-077 (Order PM 786), § 308-

195-200, filed 11/2/88.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165,

filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory

Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-200 Temporary practice. [Statutory Authority: RCW

43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as

§ 246-928-200, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91.

Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 89-09-006

(Order PM 832), § 308-195-210, filed 4/7/89.]

Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective

6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-210 Definitions—Alternative training respiratory care

practitioners. [Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040.

WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-210, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 89-09-006 (Order PM 832), § 308-195-220, filed 4/7/89.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-220 Alternative training requirements. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 92-02-018 (Order 224), § 246-928-220, filed 12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-220, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050. WSR 89-09-006 (Order PM 832), § 308-195-230, filed 4/7/89.] Repealed by WSR 01-11-165, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1).

246-928-441 Implementation. [Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1) and 18.89.140. WSR 01-21-136, § 246-

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928-441, filed 10/24/01, effective 11/24/01.]

Repealed by WSR 15-24-095, filed 11/30/15, effective  
12/31/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050 and  
19.89.140 [18.89.140].

246-928-550 Education and training in AIDS prevention is  
required for licensure as a respiratory care  
practitioner. [Statutory Authority: RCW  
18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-550, filed  
5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.] Repealed by WSR 21-02-  
002, filed 12/23/20, effective 1/23/21. Statutory  
Authority: RCW 18.19.050, 18.29.130, 18.29.210,  
18.34.120, 18.46.060, 18.55.095, 18.84.040,  
18.88B.060, 18.89.050, 18.130.050, 18.138.070,  
18.155.040, 18.200.050, 18.205.060, 18.215.040,  
18.230.040, 18.240.050, 18.250.020, 18.290.020,  
18.360.030, 18.360.070, 70.41.030, 70.230.020,  
71.12.670, and 18.108.085.

~~WAC 246-928-310 Introduction.~~ This chapter explains the requirements for respiratory care practitioner licensure. These rules, which implement the provisions of chapter 18.89 RCW, are divided into four parts:

~~Part I explains the definitions for and the process to become licensed as a respiratory care practitioner;~~

~~Part II specifies the requirements for licensure including educational and examination criteria;~~

~~Part III explains the requirements for reporting unprofessional conduct;~~

~~Part IV lists the fees for licensure and renewal cycle for respiratory care practitioners.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-310, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**WAC 246-928-320 General definitions.** ~~This section defines terms used in the rules contained in this chapter.~~The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) ~~"Respiratory care practitioner" means a person licensed by the department of health, who is authorized under chapter~~



~~18.89 RCW and these rules to practice respiratory therapy. WAC 246-928-410 explains who must be licensed as a respiratory care practitioner.~~ "Analgesia" means providing pain relief or loss of physical sensation without the total loss of consciousness or physical movement, and which allows the patient to respond to verbal commands and tactile stimulation.

(2) "Applicant" means a person whose application for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner is being submitted to the department ~~of health.~~

(3) "Department" means the Washington state department of health.

(4) "Respiratory care practitioner" means a person licensed by the department, who is authorized under chapter 18.89 RCW and these rules to practice respiratory therapy. WAC 246-928-410 explains who must be licensed as a respiratory care practitioner.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-320, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

#### ~~PART I~~

~~DEFINITIONS AND PROCEDURES FOR LICENSING AS A RESPIRATORY~~

~~CARE PRACTITIONER~~

WAC 246-928-410 ~~Who must be licensed as a~~ Licensure requirements for a respiratory care practitioner ~~with the department~~. This section identifies who must be licensed as a respiratory care practitioner with the department and who is exempt from licensure.

(1) Any person performing or offering to perform the functions authorized in RCW 18.89.040 must be licensed as a respiratory care practitioner. A certification, registration or other credential issued by a professional organization does not substitute for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner in Washington state.

(2) The following individuals are exempt from licensure as a respiratory care practitioner ~~with the department~~:

(a) Any person performing or offering to perform the functions authorized in RCW 18.89.040, ~~if that person already holds a current licensure, certification or registration that authorizes these functions~~ who is either registered, certified,

licensed, or similarly regulated under the laws of this state  
and is performing services within the person's authorized scope  
of practice;

(b) Any person employed by the United States government who is practicing respiratory care as a performance of the duties prescribed for him or her by the laws of and rules of the United States;

(c) Any person who is pursuing a supervised course of study leading to a degree or certificate in respiratory care, if the person is designated by a title that clearly indicates ~~his or her~~ their status as a student or trainee and limited to the extent of demonstrated proficiency of completed curriculum, and under direct supervision;

(d) Any person who is licensed as a registered nurse under chapter 18.79 RCW;

(e) Any person who is practicing respiratory care without compensation for a family member.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-410, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**Respiratory care practitioner application requirements.** ~~This~~

~~section explains how a person may become licensed as a respiratory care practitioner with the department.~~

~~(1) The department shall provide forms for use by an applicant for licensure as a~~ To become licensed as a ~~respiratory care practitioner. All applications for licensure must be submitted on these forms, with the appropriate fee required in WAC 246-928-990. The specific requirements and process for licensure is set forth in WAC 246-12-020,~~ an applicant shall:

(1) Submit to the department:

(a) A completed application as provided by the department;

(b) Proof of meeting the education requirements in WAC 246-928-520;

(c) The appropriate fee required in WAC 246-928-990; and

(d) Any other information determined necessary by the department.; and

~~(2) The applicant shall certify that all information on the application forms is accurate. The applicant is subject to investigation and discipline by the department for any apparent~~

~~violation of chapters 18.130 and 18.89 RCW, or this~~

~~chapter~~ Comply with the examination requirements in WAC 246-928-540.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-420, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**WAC 246-928-430** ~~How and when to renew a respiratory~~

**Respiratory care practitioner license renewal.** ~~This section explains how and when to renew a respiratory care practitioner license.~~

(1) ~~Applications for renewal of the license for~~ To renew a license a respiratory care practitioner shall ~~be submitted on~~ submit a renewal forms form provided by the department, with the appropriate fee required in WAC 246-928-990.

(2) The specific requirements and process for renewal of a license are ~~set forth~~ in WAC 246-12-030.

(23) Renewal fees must be postmarked on or before the renewal date or the department will charge a late renewal penalty fee and licensure reissuance fee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-430, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**~~WAC 246-928-440 Continuing education requirements.~~**

~~Purposes. The ultimate aim of continuing education is to ensure the highest quality of professional work. Continuing education consists of educational activities designed to review existing concepts and techniques and to convey information and knowledge about advances in respiratory care as applied to the work settings. The objectives are to improve and increase the ability of the respiratory care practitioner to deliver the highest possible quality of respiratory care work and to keep the professional respiratory care practitioner abreast of current developments in a rapidly changing field. All respiratory care practitioners licensed under chapter 18.89 RCW will be required to meet the continuing education requirements set forth in these rules as a prerequisite to license renewal.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1) and 18.89.140. WSR 01-21-136, § 246-928-440, filed 10/24/01, effective 11/24/01.]

**WAC 246-928-442 Continuing education.** ~~All licensed~~ To renew a respiratory care practitioners ~~s seeking to renew their~~ license, the licensee shall acquire ~~thirty~~ 30 credit hours of continuing respiratory care education every two years as

required in RCW 18.89.140. Licensees shall meet the continuing education requirement outlined in this section and report such continuing education as required in ~~chapter 246-12 WAC, Part~~ 7WAC 246-12-170 through 246-12-240.

(1) The following are categories of ~~acceptable~~ accepted continuing education activities for licensed respiratory care practitioners:

(a) A minimum of ~~ten~~ 10 credit hours of continuing education during each two-year reporting cycle must be earned in courses approved by the American Association for Respiratory Care (AARC).

(b) The remaining ~~twenty~~ 20 hours of continuing education during each two-year reporting cycle may be in any of the following areas:

(i) Sponsored courses. Courses sponsored or approved by the:

- (A) American Academy of Pediatrics;
- (B) American Academy of Physician Assistants;
- (C) American Association of Critical Care Nurses;
- (D) American Association of Respiratory Care;

- (E) American College of Chest Physicians;
- (F) American College of Emergency Physicians;
- (G) American College of Physicians;
- (H) American Medical Association;
- (I) American Nurses Association;
- (J) American Osteopathic Association;
- (K) American Thoracic Society;
- (L) Society of Critical Care Medicine;
- (M) Washington academy of physician assistants;
- (N) Washington osteopathic medicine association;
- (O) Washington state medical association; ~~or~~
- (P) Washington state nurses association;
- (Q) Extracorporeal life support organization; or
- (R) American Society of Extracorporeal Technology.

(ii) Certifications/examinations eligible valid for  
continuing education credit. ~~Licensees shall only claim credit~~  
~~hours in this category that were obtained during the current~~  
~~reporting cycle.~~

(A) Ten credit hours each may be claimed for the following  
initial or renewal certifications:



(I) Advanced cardiac life support (also known as ACLS);

(II) Neonatal advanced life support (also known as NALS, or neonatal resuscitation program or NRP);

(III) Pediatric advanced life support (also known as PALS).

(B) Five credit hours may be claimed for initial or renewal certification in basic life support (also known as BLS).

(C) Ten credit hours each may be claimed for passing either of the following National Board of Respiratory Care (NBRC) advanced practitioner examinations:

(I) The NBRC therapist multiple-choice examination combined with the clinical simulation examination that awards NBRC registration ~~(formerly known as the registered respiratory therapist, or "RRT," examination)~~; or

(II) Registered pulmonary function technologist.

(D) Five credit hours each may be claimed for passing any of the following:

(I) The NBRC therapist multiple-choice examination that awards NBRC certification ~~(formerly known as the entry level, or "CRT," examination)~~;

(II) Any NBRC specialty examination;

(III) The NBRC self-assessment competency examination with a minimum score of ~~seventy-five~~75; or

(IV) National Asthma Educator Certification Board certified asthma educator examination.

(iii) Educational settings.

(A) A licensee may claim courses completed at a regionally accredited college, university, or institute of higher education. Such courses must focus on the clinical practice of respiratory care or education related to the cardiopulmonary system. Credit hours for such courses may be claimed as either:

(I) Actual semester contact hours (such as ~~fifteen~~15 semester contact hours shall be equal to ~~fifteen~~15 continuing education credits); or

(II) An academic credit formula that multiplies the academic credits by a factor of three (such as four academic credits shall be equal to ~~twelve~~12 continuing education credits).

(B) A licensee may claim respiratory care educational offerings provided by hospitals or health organizations.

(C) A licensee may claim continuing education credit hours for serving as an instructor of educational offerings in respiratory care provided by hospitals or health organizations; or at a regionally accredited college, university, or institute of higher education. Such educational offerings must include learning objectives. The number of credit hours claimed for serving as an instructor shall be the same number as those earned by attendees. The credit hours for presenting a specific topic, lecture, or education course may only be used for continuing education once during each reporting cycle.

(c) No more than ~~ten~~10 credit hours of continuing education during a two-year reporting cycle may be in any of the following areas:

(i) Self-study. Journal reading of publications related to respiratory care;

(ii) Practice related topics. Formal, internet-based, or video-format courses offered by organizations not listed in (b) of this subsection including, but not limited to, the American Association of Cardiovascular and Pulmonary Rehabilitation, the

Association for the Treatment of Tobacco Use and Dependence, or the Council for Tobacco Treatment Training Programs; or

(iii) Nonclinical practice topics. Courses or activities including, but not limited to, health promotion, health care cost management, mandatory reporting, professional ethics, and regulatory affairs.

(2) Documentation. ~~Licensees are~~ A licensee is responsible for acquiring and maintaining all acceptable documentation of their continuing education activities, as required in ~~chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7~~ WAC 246-12-170 through 246-12-240. Acceptable documentation ~~shall~~ must include transcripts, letters from course instructors, or certificates of completion or other formal certifications provided by hospitals, course instructors, and health organizations. In all cases other than transcripts, the documentation must show the participant's name, activity title, number of continuing education credit hours, date(s) of activity, instructor's name(s) and degree and the signature of the verifying individual program sponsor.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050 and 19.89.140 [18.89.140]. WSR 15-24-095, § 246-928-442, filed 11/30/15, effective 12/31/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1) and 18.89.140.

WSR 01-21-136, § 246-928-442, filed 10/24/01, effective 11/24/01.]

**WAC 246-928-443 Verification of continuing education. (1)**

The licensee shall:

(a) Verify on renewal forms provided by the department, that the minimum continuing education has been completed within the two-year renewal cycle prior to the licensee's renewal date; and

(b) Keep records for four years as required in ~~chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7~~ WAC 246-12-200.

(2) ~~Audits.~~ The department may conduct random compliance audits of continuing education records, ~~as described in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7~~ in compliance with WAC 246-12-170 through 246-12-240.

(3) ~~Exemptions.~~ In certain emergency situations, the department may excuse all or part of the continuing education requirement ~~as described in chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 7~~ in compliance with WAC 246-12-210. The department may require verification of the emergency.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1) and 18.89.140. WSR 01-21-136, § 246-928-443, filed 10/24/01, effective 11/24/01.]

**WAC 246-928-450** ~~How to reinstate an expired~~ **Expired**

**respiratory care practitioner license.** ~~This section explains the process for reinstatement of an expired respiratory care practitioner license. Applications for reinstatement of an expired license may be submitted on forms provided by the department, with the appropriate fee required in WAC 246-928-990. The specific requirements and process for reinstatement of an expired license is set forth in~~ **To return an expired license to active status, the applicant shall meet the requirements in**

WAC 246-12-040.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-450, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**PART II**

**REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSURE AS A RESPIRATORY CARE  
PRACTITIONER**

~~**WAC 246-928-510** Overview of the qualifications required for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner. This section provides an overview of the qualifications required for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner.~~

~~The requirements for licensure are intended to ensure the minimum level of knowledge, skill and experience necessary to practice safely as a respiratory care practitioner. Licensure requires applicants to submit proof to the department that they have satisfied educational and examination requirements in this chapter.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-510, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**WAC 246-928-520 Minimum educational qualifications for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner.** ~~This section provides the minimum educational qualifications for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner.~~

(1) To meet the educational requirements required by RCW 18.89.090, an applicant must be a graduate of at least a two-year respiratory therapy educational program. ~~Programs~~ The program must be accredited by:

~~Accredited by the~~ (a) The Committee ~~On~~ on Accreditation for Respiratory Care (~~COARC~~ CoARC); ~~or~~

~~(b) accredited by the~~The American Medical Association's  
(AMA) Committee on Allied Health Education and Accreditation  
(CAHEA)~~;~~; or ~~its successor, the~~

(c) The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health  
Education Program (CAAHEP).

(2) An official transcript indicating completion of at  
least a two-year program must be provided as evidence of  
fulfillment of the required education.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-  
928-520, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

~~WAC 246-928-530 How new graduates may qualify for  
temporary practice and what is required. (1) An individual who  
has completed an approved program under WAC 246-928-520 is  
eligible for temporary practice. To meet the requirements for  
temporary practice under this rule, an individual is required  
to:~~

~~(a) Submit the application and fee as required in WAC 246-  
928-990;~~

~~(b) Sit for the examination within ninety days of  
graduation as required in WAC 246-928-560; and~~



~~(c) Be under the supervision of a licensed respiratory care practitioner.~~

~~Temporary practice may begin from the time the application and fee is submitted to the department.~~

~~(2) An applicant shall request examination results be submitted directly to the department from National Board for Respiratory Care.~~

~~(3) An applicant who receives notification that he or she successfully passed the examination may continue to practice under the supervision of a licensed respiratory care practitioner until the department has issued a license to the applicant.~~

~~(4) An applicant who receives notification of failure to pass the examination shall cease practice immediately. Resumption of practice may occur only after successfully passing the examination and becoming licensed as a respiratory care practitioner by the department.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-530, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**WAC 246-928-540 Examination requirements for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner.** ~~This section provides the minimum examination requirements for licensure as a respiratory care practitioner.~~

(1) An applicant who has taken and passed both the therapist multiple-choice examination and the clinical simulation examination for the Registered Respiratory Therapist credential provided by the National Board for Respiratory Care (NBRC) ~~entry level examination~~, has met the minimum examination requirements of RCW 18.89.090 (1)(b). Applicants shall request the NBRC ~~to~~ verify to the department that the applicant has successfully passed the NBRC examinations.

(2) An active Registered Respiratory Therapist credential with NBRC is considered proof of meeting the minimum examination requirements.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-540, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**WAC 246-928-560** ~~How to apply for licensure~~ Licensure for persons credentialed out-of-state. ~~This section explains how a~~

~~person holding a license in another state or jurisdiction may apply for licensure.~~

~~(1)~~ An applicant who is currently or was previously credentialed in another state or jurisdiction may qualify for licensure in Washington state. ~~Applicants must submit the following documentation to~~ To be considered for licensure:

(1) The applicant shall submit to the department:

(a) ~~An~~ A completed application on forms provided by the department;

(b) Proof of meeting the education requirements in WAC 246-928-520 or subsection (4) of this section; and

(c) A fee and forms as specified in WAC ~~246-928-420 and~~ 246-928-990; and.

(2) The applicant shall comply with the examination requirements in WAC 246-928-540 or subsection (4) of this section.

~~(b) Written~~ (3) The applicant shall request written verification directly from all states in which the applicant is or was credentialed, attesting that the applicant has or had a license in good standing and is not subject to charges or

disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct or impairment,  
and

~~(c) Verification of completion of the required education  
and examination as specified in WAC 246-928-520.~~

(~~2~~4) Applicants who have completed at least a two-year program recognized by the Canadian Society of Respiratory Therapists (CSRT) in their current list, or any previous lists, and ~~are eligible to sit for~~have passed the CSRT registry examination; or have been issued a registration by the CSRT are considered to have met the educational and examination requirements in this chapter. Canadian applicants are required to submit verification directly from CSRT, as well as all of the information listed above for applicants licensed in another jurisdiction.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-560, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

**WAC 246-928-570** ~~How to apply for temporary~~Temporary  
practice ~~permit~~ permits for ~~persons~~ applicants credentialed out-  
of-state. ~~This section explains how a person holding a license~~

~~in another state or jurisdiction may apply for a temporary practice permit.~~

(1) An applicant who is currently or was previously credentialed in another state or jurisdiction may qualify for licensure in Washington state. Applicants must submit the following documentation to be considered for a temporary practice permit:

(a) A completed application on forms provided by the department with the request for a temporary practice permit indicated;

(b) An application fee and a temporary practice permit fee as specified in WAC 246-928-990;

(c) Written verification directly from all states or jurisdictions in which the applicant is or was licensed, attesting that the applicant has or had a license in good standing and is not subject to charges or disciplinary action for unprofessional conduct or impairment; and

(d) Verification of completion of the required education and examination as specified in WAC 246-928-520.

(2) The department shall issue a one-time-only temporary practice permit unless the department determines a basis for denial of the license or issuance of a conditional license.

(3) The temporary permit shall expire upon the issuance of a license by the department, or within ~~three months~~90 days, whichever occurs first. The permit shall not be extended beyond the expiration date.

(4) Issuance of a temporary practice permit does not ensure that the department will grant a full license. Temporary permit holders are subject to the same education and examination requirements as set forth in WAC 246-928-520 and 246-928-550.

(5) The following situations are not considered substantially equal for Washington state licensure:

(a) Certification of persons credentialed out-of-state through a state-constructed examination; or

(b) ~~Grandfathering~~Legacy provisions where proof of education and examination was not required.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-570, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

NEW SECTION

**246-928-580 Education and Training Requirements for Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation (ECMO) and Extracorporeal Life Support (ECLS).**

(1) In order to provide extracorporeal membrane oxygenation (ECMO) and extracorporeal life support (ECLS), a respiratory care practitioner shall first complete education and hands-on experience specific to this treatment. The education must meet the guidelines in the 2010 Extracorporeal Life Support Organization (ELSO) Guidelines for Training and Continuing Education of ECMO Specialists and must include:

- (a) Didactic sessions of at least 24 hours;
- (b) Hands-on proficiencies, also known as water drills, including:
  - (i) Basic session with a discussion and demonstration of the equipment; and
  - (ii) Emergency session to address failure of the equipment and corrections;
- (c) High-fidelity simulation or animal sessions; and
- (d) Preceptor training, also known as bedside training, of at least 16 hours.

(2) An ECMO or ECLS training program which meets the standards set by ELSO meets the training requirements of this section. This includes, but is not limited to, institutes and facilities that employ respiratory care practitioners.

(3) A respiratory care practitioner who provides ECMO or ECLS shall meet any annual training and certification requirements of their institute or facility, which may include but are not

limited to, examinations, evaluations, or continuing education requirements.

NEW SECTION

**WAC 246-928-590 Training Requirements for the Administration of Nitrous Oxide.**

(1) A respiratory care practitioner shall follow the training requirements and protocols of the hospital or facility in which they are employed when providing nitrous oxide for analgesia.

(2) To provide nitrous oxide for analgesia, a respiratory care practitioner shall complete training that includes but is not limited to, the following components:

(a) Nitrous oxide training which provides education specific to administering nitrous oxide for analgesia;

(b) In-service competency which includes hands-on proficiency in the administration of nitrous oxide for analgesia; and

(c) Observed competency requirement of at least one successful, independent administration of nitrous oxide observed by a licensed individual currently qualified to provide this treatment.

(3) Respiratory care practitioners may only administer nitrous oxide for analgesia under direct supervision of a health care practitioner as defined in RCW 18.89.020 who is on-site and physically present in the treatment operatory.

**PART III**



~~REQUIREMENTS FOR REPORTING UNPROFESSIONAL CONDUCT~~

**WAC 246-928-710 Mandatory reporting.** ~~(1) All reports~~

~~required by this chapter shall be submitted to the department as soon as possible, but no later than twenty days after a determination is made.~~

~~(2) A report should contain the following information if known:~~

~~(a) The name, address, and telephone number of the person making the report.~~

~~(b) The name, address, and telephone numbers of the respiratory care practitioner being reported.~~

~~(c) The case number of any patient whose treatment is a subject of the report.~~

~~(d) A brief description or summary of the facts which prompted the issuance of the report, including dates of occurrences.~~

~~(e) If court action is involved, the name of the court in which the action is filed along with the date of filing and docket number.~~

~~(f) Any further information which would aid in the evaluation of the report.~~

~~(3) Mandatory reports shall be exempt from public inspection and copying to the extent permitted under RCW 42.17.310 or to the extent that public inspection or copying of the report or any portion of the report would invade or violate a person's right to privacy as set forth in RCW 42.17.255.~~

~~(4) A person is immune from civil liability, whether direct or derivative, for providing information to the department pursuant to RCW 18.130.070.~~

Individuals and other entities must report unprofessional conduct in compliance with the Uniform Disciplinary Act in chapter 18.130 RCW and the standards of professional conduct in chapter 246-16 WAC.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-710, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

~~**WAC 246-928-720 Health care institutions.** The chief administrator, executive officer, or any health care institution shall report to the department when any respiratory care~~

~~practitioner's services are terminated or are restricted based on a determination that the respiratory care practitioner has either committed an act or acts which may constitute unprofessional conduct or that the respiratory care practitioner may be unable to practice with reasonable skill or safety to clients by reason of any mental or physical condition.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-720, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

~~**WAC 246-928-730 Respiratory care practitioner associations or societies.** The president or chief executive officer of any respiratory care practitioner association or society within this state shall report to the department when the association or society determines that a respiratory care practitioner has committed unprofessional conduct or that a respiratory care practitioner may not be able to practice respiratory care with reasonable skill and safety to patients as the result of any mental or physical conditions. The report required by this section shall be made without regard to whether the license holder appeals, accepts, or acts upon the determination made by~~

~~the association or society. Notification of appeal shall be included.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-730, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

~~**WAC 246-928-740 Professional liability carriers.** Every institution or organization providing professional liability insurance directly or indirectly to respiratory care practitioners shall send a complete report to the department of any malpractice settlement, award, or payment in excess of twenty thousand dollars as a result of a claim or action for damages alleged to have been caused by an insured respiratory care practitioner's incompetency or negligence in the practice of respiratory care. Such institution or organization shall also report the award, settlement, or payment of three or more claims during a twelve-month period as a result of the respiratory care practitioner's alleged incompetence or negligence.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-740, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

~~**WAC 246-928-750 Courts.** The department requests the assistance of the clerk of trial courts within the state to report all professional malpractice judgments and all~~

~~convictions of licensed respiratory care practitioners, other than minor traffic violations.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-750, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

~~**WAC 246-928-760 State and federal agencies.** The department requests the assistance of executive officers of any state or federal program operating in the state of Washington, under which a respiratory care practitioner is employed to provide patient care services, to report to the department whenever such a respiratory care practitioner has been judged to have demonstrated his/her incompetency or negligence in the practice of respiratory care, or has otherwise committed unprofessional conduct, or has a mental or physical disability that prevents them from practicing competently and professionally. These requirements do not supersede any state or federal law.~~

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-760, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01.]

#### ~~**PART IV**~~

#### ~~**RESPIRATORY CARE PRACTITIONER LICENSING AND RENEWAL FEES**~~

**WAC 246-928-990 Respiratory care fees and renewal cycle.**

(1) Licenses must be renewed every two years on the practitioner's birthday as provided in ~~chapter 246-12 WAC, Part 2~~WAC 246-12-030.

(2) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged:

| <b>Title of Fee</b>        | <b>Fee</b> |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Application                | \$140.00   |
| Temporary practice permit  | 50.00      |
| Duplicate license          | 15.00      |
| Verification of licensure  | 15.00      |
| Renewal                    | 110.00     |
| Late renewal penalty       | 55.00      |
| Expired license reissuance | 65.00      |

[Statutory Authority: 43.70.280. WSR 15-19-149, § 246-928-990, filed 9/22/15, effective 1/1/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 2010 c 37. WSR 10-19-071, § 246-928-990, filed 9/16/10, effective 10/15/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250 and 2008 c 329. WSR 08-16-008, § 246-928-990, filed 7/24/08, effective 7/25/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250, [43.70.]280 and 43.70.110. WSR 05-12-012, § 246-928-990, filed 5/20/05, effective 7/1/05. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050(1). WSR 01-11-165, § 246-928-990, filed 5/23/01, effective 6/23/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250. WSR 99-08-101, § 246-928-990, filed 4/6/99, effective 7/1/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.280. WSR 98-05-060, § 246-928-990, filed 2/13/98, effective 3/16/98. Statutory Authority: Chapter 18.89 RCW and RCW 43.70.040. WSR 95-18-019, § 246-928-990, filed 8/24/95, effective 9/24/95. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.250.

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WSR 92-15-032 (Order 285), § 246-928-990, filed 7/7/92,  
effective 8/7/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.89.050 and  
43.70.250. WSR 92-02-018 (Order 224), § 246-928-990, filed  
12/23/91, effective 1/23/92. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040.  
WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-928-990, filed  
12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.24.086.  
WSR 88-17-099 (Order PM 741), § 308-195-110, filed 8/23/88.]