



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

**CR-101 (October 2017)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)**

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: December 01, 2021

TIME: 9:40 AM

WSR 21-24-102

Agency: Department of Health- Board of Optometry

Subject of possible rule making: WAC 246-851-090 through 246-851-230. The Board of Optometry (board) will conduct a review of the continuing education (CE) and related rules to consider increasing the number of allowable online credits. The board may also make clarifications to existing rules and updates to citations as needed. Rulemaking may include creating new rule sections and repealing existing rule sections.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 18.54.070(2)

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: Due to the coronavirus 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, the board adopted a policy to allow unlimited online continuing education credits. This policy was published on May 18, 2020 as WSR 20-11-068. The board has found that quality online CE is widely available, provides attendees flexibility and cost savings, and it is therefore considering adjusting the allowance of online courses going forward. Further, the board recently completed its statutorily required 5-year review of rules and will consider suggestions from that review to clarify, streamline, and simplify existing rules.

Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies: None

Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) Collaborative

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:

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(If necessary)

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Additional comments: Rulemaking notices will be delivered via GovDelivery. To receive notices, interested persons may sign up for any or all of the lists. Please go to: <https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADOH/subscriber/new>. After signing in, please click open the box labeled "Health Systems Quality Assurance." Next click open the box labeled "Health Professions." From there, you may check the box next to one or more of the professions listed.

Date: 12/01/2021	Signature: 
Name: Traci Orr	
Title: Interim Deputy Office Director	