



# RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

## CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: November 22, 2024

TIME: 2:10 PM

WSR 24-24-021

**Agency:** Department of Health and Occupational Therapy Practice Board

**Effective date of rule:**

**Permanent Rules**

- 31 days after filing.
- Other (specify) July 1, 2025 (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

**Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?**

- Yes  No If Yes, explain:

**Purpose:** Occupational Therapy temporary permit and fee updates. The Occupational Therapy Practice Board (board) and the Department of Health (department) are adopting amendments to the temporary permit and fee rules in response to Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 1009 (chapter 165, Laws of 2023), codified as RCW 18.340.020.

Amendments to WAC 246-847-117 align with the statute by reducing barriers for military spouses entering and remaining in the occupational therapy workforce. The adopted rules extend the length of time the temporary permit can be active from 90 days to 180 days, as required by RCW 18.340.020. This change applies to all recipients of the temporary permit, not just military spouses.

Additionally, the department in consultation with the board is adopting amendments to WAC 246-847-990 to create a new fee to cover the cost of the temporary permit. Currently there is no fee established to cover the costs of issuing temporary permits, however RCW 43.70.250 requires that the costs of licensing each profession be fully borne by members of that profession. The department is adopting a fee to cover the cost of issuing 180-day temporary permits and ensure the department is in line with RCW 43.70.250.

The adopted rules remove barriers to entering and remaining in the occupational therapy workforce, provide applicants more time to obtain full licensure, provide recipients of a temporary practice permit more time to work in the state, and they create a fee to cover the costs of issuing temporary permits.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

- New: None
- Repealed: None
- Amended: WAC 246-847-117 and 246-847-990
- Suspended: None

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 18.59.130, 18.340.020, 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 43.70.280

**Other authority:** None

**PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)**

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 24-17-077 on August 16, 2024 (date).  
Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None.

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name: Kathy Weed  
Address: PO Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852  
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 Other: None

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.  
 No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.  
 A section may be counted in more than one category.**

**The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:**

Federal statute:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Federal rules or standards:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>2</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

**The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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**The number of sections adopted using:**

Negotiated rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Pilot rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Other alternative rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>2</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

**Date Adopted:** November 22, 2024

**Name:** Mary Spores, OT | Kristin Peterson, JD for Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH

**Title:** Chair, Occupational Therapy Board | Chief of Policy for Secretary of Health

**Signature:**

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 92-18-015, filed 8/24/92, effective 9/24/92)

**WAC 246-847-117 Temporary permits—Issuance and duration pursuant to RCW 18.130.075.** (1) Unless there is a basis for denial of an occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant license, an applicant who is currently licensed in a jurisdiction considered by the board to have licensing standards substantially equivalent to Washington's shall be issued a temporary practice permit after receipt of the following documentation by the department of health:

(a) Submission of a completed occupational therapist or occupational therapy assistant application on which the applicant indicates that he or she wishes to receive a temporary practice permit;

(b) Payment of the application fee and temporary practice permit fee; and

(c) Direct written verification of current licensure from the state whose licensing standards are substantially equivalent to Washington's.

(2) The temporary practice permit shall expire upon the issuance of a license by the board; initiation of an investigation by the board; or ~~((ninety))~~ 180 days, whichever occurs first.

(3) An applicant who receives a temporary practice permit and who does not complete the licensure application process shall not receive additional temporary practice permits even upon submission of a new application in the future.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-19-149, filed 9/22/15, effective 1/1/16)

**WAC 246-847-990 Occupational therapy 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 246-12-020 through 246-12-051.

(2) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged for occupational therapist:

<b>Title of Fee</b>	<b>Fee</b>
<b>Original application</b>	
Application and initial license fee	\$150.00
HEAL-WA* surcharge	16.00
<b>Limited permit fee</b>	55.00
<b>Temporary permit fee</b>	<u>50.00</u>
<b>Active license renewal</b>	
License renewal	125.00
Late renewal fee	65.00
HEAL-WA* surcharge (\$16.00 per year for two-year cycle)	32.00
Expired license reissuance	80.00
<b>Inactive license renewal</b>	
Inactive license	15.00
Expired license reissuance	15.00

<b>Title of Fee</b>	<b>Fee</b>
HEAL-WA* surcharge (\$16.00 per year for two-year cycle)	32.00
<b>Duplicate license</b>	30.00
<b>Verification of license</b>	30.00

(3) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged for occupational therapy assistant:

<b>Title of Fee</b>	<b>Fee</b>
<b>Original application</b>	
Application and initial license fee	\$150.00
HEAL-WA* surcharge	16.00
<b>Limited permit fee</b>	45.00
<b><u>Temporary permit fee</u></b>	<u>50.00</u>
<b>Active license renewal</b>	
License renewal	105.00
Late renewal fee	55.00
Expired license reissuance	70.00
HEAL-WA* surcharge (\$16.00 per year for two-year cycle)	32.00
<b>Inactive license renewal</b>	
Inactive license	15.00
Expired inactive license reissuance	14.00
HEAL-WA* surcharge (\$16.00 per year for two-year cycle)	32.00
<b>Duplicate license</b>	30.00
<b>Verification of license</b>	30.00

\*HEAL-WA is the health resources for Washington online library. See RCW 43.70.110.