



January 13, 2025

Subject: Informative- Information on Agency Rulemaking December 16-31, 2024

Dear Tribal Leaders, Partners and Professionals,

We thank you for your partnership and guidance on the Washington State Department of Health rulemaking process. As an agency, we are committed to honoring the Tribal sovereignty of Washington's first Nations. As part of this commitment, and in appreciation of the governance structures of Tribal Nations, we welcome your expertise and collaboration in these current and upcoming rulemaking activities. We prioritize Tribal involvement early in the process to better ensure we are incorporating Tribal expertise, perspectives, and transparency in agency rulemaking.

In accordance with [Chapter 43.376 RCW](#), the [Washington State Centennial Accord of 1989](#), and the [Department of Health's \(WA-DOH\) Tribal Consultation and Collaboration Procedure](#), DOH invites you to review the list of rulemaking activities below and actively collaborate with staff on all topics that may be of interest.

We appreciate your feedback, if you have any suggestions or questions about how to best honor Tribal sovereignty and strengthen agency processes, please let us know.

To provide comments or requests for additional information, please contact:

Candice Wilson – Quatz'tenaut (Lummi)
Executive Director
Office of Tribal Public Health Relations
Candice.Wilson@doh.wa.gov
360-819-7626

Tami Thompson
Regulatory Affairs Manager
Tami.Thompson@doh.wa.gov
360-628-0096

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature of Candice Wilson, consisting of a stylized 'C' followed by a series of loops.

Candice Wilson – Quatz'tenaut (Lummi)
Executive Director OTPHR

CC: Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH, Secretary of Health, Department of Health
Michelle Davis, Executive Director, Washington State Board of Health
Lacy Fehrenbach, Deputy Secretary, Prevention Safety & Health, Department of Health
Tao Sheng Kwan-Gett, MD, MPH, Chief Science Officer, Department of Health
Kristin Peterson, Chief of Policy, Planning & Evaluation, Department of Health
Elizabeth Perez, Chief of Public Affairs and Equity, Department of Health
Jessica Todorovich, Chief of Staff, Department of Health



WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Department of Health/State Board of Health
Rule Report |
December 16-31, 2024

The following Department of Health (WA-DOH) and State Board of Health (SBOH) rules and documents were filed with the Washington State's Code Reviser Office December 16-31, 2024. If you have any questions about the documents, please contact the person on the forms.

Preproposal Statement of Inquiry (CR-101)

No Filings

Proposed Rules (CR-102)

Hearing and Speech. WA-DOH is implementing legislation, reducing licensure barriers for hearing and speech professions and clarifying requirements for speech-language pathology assistant certification in chapter 246-828 WAC. Filed as [WSR 25-02-001](#).

Naturopathic Physicians - License requirements. The Board of Naturopathy is proposing amendments to licensure requirements in WAC 246-836-020 and WAC 246-836-040 relating to jurisprudence examinations as a condition for licensure for naturopathic physicians and to clarify, update, and simplify rules to comply with RCW 18.130.077. Filed as [WSR 25-02-094](#).

Public Records. WA-DOH is proposing to relocate the public records requirements, currently located in chapter 246-08 WAC, to a new chapter in Title 246 WAC—chapter 246-02 WAC—and expand and clarify the requirements to reflect current state law and agency procedures. WA-DOH is also proposing to update the references to the public records rules in WAC 246-08-480 and repeal the outdated rules regarding public records in WAC 246-08-420, 246-08-440, 246-08-450, and 246-08-990. Filed as [WSR 25-02-093](#).

Sanitary Control of Shellfish - Minimum Performance Standards. WA-DOH is proposing to amend WAC 246-282-005(1)(a) to adopt by reference the 2023 version of the National Shellfish Sanitation Program's (NSSP) Guide for the Control of Molluscan Shellfish (guide). This rulemaking is necessary to update the publication date of the NSSP guide adopted by reference from 2019 to the 2023 version. Filed as [WSR 25-02-007](#).

Substance Use Disorder Profession (SUDP). WA-DOH is proposing updates to reduce barriers to entering and remaining in the SUDP workforce and to streamline and shorten the credentialing process. Amending chapter 246-811 WAC, including repealing sections and creating new sections. Filed as [WSR 25-01-103](#).

Expedited Rulemaking (CR-105)

No Filings

Adopted Rules (CR-103P)

988 Contact Hubs - Standards for designation in chapter 246-350 WAC. WA-DOH adopted a new chapter of rules to implement legislation. The rules establish standards for the designation of crisis centers as contact hubs within the 988 national suicide prevention and mental health crisis hotline system. Filed as [WSR 25-02-079](#).

Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner (ARNP) - Education requirements. The Washington State Board of Nursing (board) adopted amendments to the education requirements in WAC 246-840-010, 246-840-340, and 246-840-342 in response to the Joint Administrative Rules Review Committee's (JARRC) recommendation. The board adopted amendments to define the term "graduate degree" as a master's or doctoral degree, for technical edits, and to provide for exemptions to education requirements for ARNP licensure as outlined in existing board procedures. Filed as [WSR 25-02-080](#).

Birth Doula – Culturally Congruent Care. WA-DOH adopted amendments to WAC 246-835-010 and 246-835-025 to update the definition of "culturally congruent care" and to clarify education and training requirements related to culturally congruent care. Filed as [WSR 25-02-003](#).

Birth Doulas – Removing certification barriers and aligning rules with recent legislation. WA-DOH adopted amendments to WAC 246-835-040 to waive education, training, experience, and examination requirements for applicants that qualify for certification by endorsement to implement RCW 18.130.077. Filed as [WSR 25-02-081](#).

Medical Test Site. WA-DOH adopted amendments to sections WAC 246-338-022, 246-338-040, 246-338-050, 246-338-060, 246-338-070, 246-338-080, and 246-338-090 to incorporate existing minimum standards that are missing, make technical corrections to rules, and adopt new federal requirements. Filed as [WSR 25-02-002](#).

Emergency Rules (CR-103E)

No Filings

Miscellaneous Filings

Board of Optometry – 2025 regular scheduled meetings. Filed as [WSR 25-01-126](#).

Dental Quality Assurance Commission - 2025 revised regular scheduled meetings. Filed as [WSR 25-02-062](#).

Examining Board of Psychology – 2025 regular scheduled meetings. Filed as [WSR 25-02-066](#).

WA-DOH – Rescinded Policy Statement EMS23-01 | Organ Transport Services and Vehicles. Filed as [WSR 25-02-058](#).

WA-DOH, Dental Hygiene Examining Committee – 2025 regular scheduled meetings. Filed as [WSR 25-02-061](#).

WA-DOH, Mental Health Counselors, Marriage & Family Therapists, and Social Workers Advisory Committee – 2025 regular scheduled meetings. Filed as [WSR 25-02-067](#).

WA-DOH, Sex Offender Treatment Provider Advisory Committee – 2025 regular scheduled meetings. Filed as [WSR 25-02-068](#).

Washington Medical Commission – Rescinded Policy Statement POL2021-02 | Telemedicine. Filed as [WSR 25-02-056](#).

Washington State Board of Nursing – Issued Policy Statement POL2024-01 | Discrimination in Healthcare. Provides clarity on discriminatory acts and the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Commitment Statement. Filed as [WSR 25-02-050](#).

Veterinary Board of Governors - 2025 regular meeting schedule. [Filed as WSR 25-01-058](#).