



Public Notification and Meeting Announcement for Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for ground ambulance services

CR-102 for WAC 246-976-260 & WAC 246-976-270

Rulemaking

The Department of Health's Office of Community Health Systems officially filed a CR-102 with the Office of the Code Reviser on **June 24, 2025** to open WAC 246-976-260 & WAC 246-976-270 Emergency Medical Services and Trauma Care. **The WSR number is 25-14-020.**

The Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for ground ambulance services rules establish a requirement to comply and enforce balance billing for ground ambulance services.

The Department of Health (department) is conducting rulemaking in response to new legislative requirements under Substitute Senate Bill (SSB) 5986 (chapter 218, Laws of 2024) regarding Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for ground ambulance services. The department is proposing amending sections in WAC 246-976-260 – Licenses required & WAC 246-976-270 – Denial, suspension, revocation.

To receive notifications for rules meetings please subscribe to the [Out-of-Network Health Care Charges \(balance billing\) for Ground Ambulance Services Rule Making GovDelivery account](#):

EMS Rules Stakeholder Meetings

In response to the CR-102 filing, the department has scheduled a public hearing and invites EMS & Trauma committee members and members of the public to attend.

All scheduled stakeholder meetings are open public meetings. The meeting schedule is posted and regularly updated on the [EMS Rules Development web page](#).

The public hearing will be held virtually through the Department using [Join the meeting](#).

Public Comment

If you choose, please submit any comment(s) that you have prior to a scheduled meeting, using the department-provided comment form (included on page 3). You can also submit a comment form to HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov or visit [Rules Comment](#) webpage if you are unable to attend a meeting but have a concern that you would like to be discussed in the meeting.

Your cooperation will help ensure that all comments are taken into consideration when final draft rules are adopted.

For more information, please contact HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov.

To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard-of-hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email doh.information@doh.wa.gov.

Comment Form

Thank you for taking the time to comment on the WAC 246-976-260 & WAC 246-976-270 Out-of-Network Health Care Charges (balance billing) for ground ambulance services draft rules. Please submit any comment(s) you have as soon as possible, prior to a scheduled meeting. Please submit a separate form for each criteria that you would like to comment on.

Comment submitted by:

Name:

Title:

Phone/email:

Criteria commented on:

WAC # referenced in criteria:

Position (support/oppose): Choose an item.

1. Statement of problem/comment and substantiation:

2. Suggested solution/proposed criteria:

3. Applicable research and/or substantiation of suggested solution/proposed criteria:

4. Benefit of suggested solution/proposed criteria to your service:

5. Benefit of suggested solution/proposed criteria to public:

6. Identified impacts (cost or otherwise) of suggested solution/proposed criteria to your service:

Discussion Notes (DOH staff only):

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