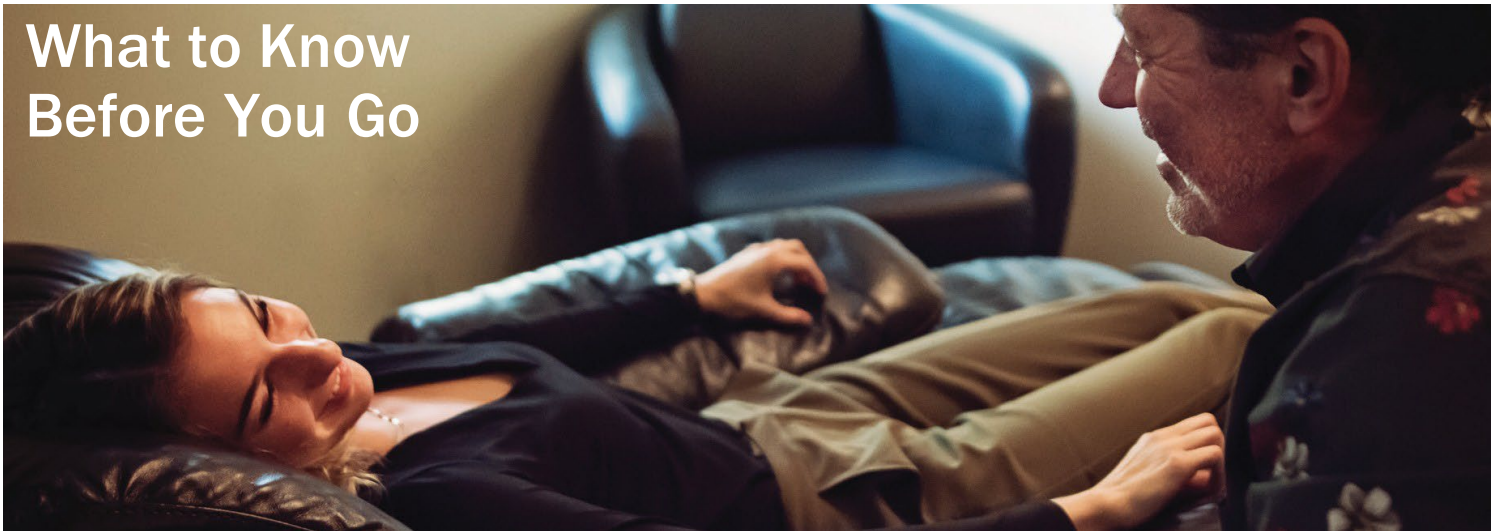


Registered Hypnotherapists in Washington

What to Know Before You Go



Determining the type of services and provider that best meets your needs

There are many registered hypnotherapists in the state of Washington. They provide assistance dealing with issues related but not limited to:

- Smoking cessation
- Stress reduction
- Healthy relationships
- Weight loss and weight management
- Confidence building
- Motivation

What you should expect from a registered hypnotherapist

Your registered hypnotherapist is encouraged to provide you with a disclosure statement that contains the following information:

- Name and business contact information
- Washington State credential number
- Areas of expertise or therapeutic orientation

Your hypnotherapist should also:

- Inform you of the costs of your treatment, billing practices, and how your records are maintained.
- Give you the opportunity to discuss matters of confidentiality, privacy, and release of information.
- Assist you in referrals to other professionals, if necessary or requested.
- Treat you with respect and dignity.

Maintaining a professional relationship

Your relationship with your hypnotherapist should be professional in nature. Hypnotherapy may include discussing the most private aspects of your life and relationships. It is your hypnotherapist's responsibility to provide an atmosphere of trust and respect.

Hypnotherapy often deals with difficult and emotional issues. There may be a time when you feel confused or troubled by something that occurs during your session. You are encouraged to talk about this with your hypnotherapist so you can come to a more comfortable resolution. If you don't feel the issue has been resolved, you may wish to get a second opinion.

You may also review the section of the law that describes forms of unprofessional conduct covered in RCW 18.130.180. Unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to:

- Misrepresentations or false advertising
- Incompetence, negligence, or malpractice
- Violation of any state or federal code
- Willful betrayal of confidentiality

- Sexual misconduct

As with all hypnotherapy services, we encourage you to:

- Determine the best fit for you, your children, or your family
- Review the personal disclosure statement of the hypnotherapist you are considering.
- Ask questions about your particular situation.

Registered Hypnotherapists in Washington: What to Know Before You Go

Registered hypnotherapists must:

- Complete and submit an application to the Department of Health
- Pay applicable fees
- Pass a background check

Confidentiality and health care information access and disclosure

Your hypnotherapist will maintain client records. These records are sensitive and confidential. They should be properly documented, stored, retained, and released only under specific circumstances. Your hypnotherapist should have a clear procedure to ensure confidentiality of your records.

You have the right to expect that anything you tell your hypnotherapist will be held in confidence with a few specific exceptions:

- If you are involved in a civil or criminal lawsuit, a judge can order your file be turned over to the court.
- If you make statements that a child, elderly, or disabled person has been abused or neglected, law requires your hypnotherapist to report that information to the appropriate authorities.
- If you make statements that indicate you intend to harm yourself or others, your hypnotherapist may report that information to the appropriate authorities.

Other circumstances may include inquiries or consultation with other healthcare providers. You will be asked to sign an authorization for release of information about your sessions. You should be informed of the reason for such disclosures and are encouraged to ask questions about anything that is unclear to you, prior to signing this authorization.

The Certified Counselors and Hypnotherapists Advisory Committee

An advisory committee, made up of two certified counselors, two registered hypnotherapists, and three public members, meets quarterly to provide advice to the Department of Health.

The committee welcomes the public to attend these meetings. Contact the Department of Health for information or refer to the hypnotherapy profession website.

The Health Systems Quality Assurance Division within the Department of Health has information on all health care professionals in the state. This information includes credential status and current restrictions or disciplinary actions since July of 1998. If you have a question about a provider, contact the Department of Health.

Remember: Your involvement in developing goals, requesting a change in approach to services, or in decisions about termination of services is encouraged.

If for any reason you are unable to resolve such a concern with your hypnotherapist, you may choose to file a complaint with the Department of Health. Contact the Customer Service Center for assistance:

Customer Service Center

(360) 236-4700

www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa

Fax: (360) 236-4818

hsqa.csc@doh.wa.gov

Provider Credential Search Website

The link below allows you to search for any provider by name or credential number:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/doh/providercredentialsearch>

The Department of Health regulates registered hypnotherapists within RCW 18.19 and WAC 246-810. The intent of the laws and rules is to protect the public and ensure the competence of those providing hypnotherapy services. Registered Hypnotherapists act according to state law, department of health rules, and national laws and regulations.

For additional information on hypnotherapists go to:

<https://www.doh.wa.gov/Hypnotherapist>



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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 civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.