



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES  
DIVISION OF ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE  
Post Office Box 45330, Olympia, WA 98504-5330

June 30, 2009

**TO:** Alcohol and Drug County Coordinators  
Association of Washington Cities  
Chemical Dependency Professional Associations  
Chemical Dependency Treatment Providers  
Citizens Advisory Council on Alcoholism and Drug Addiction  
Community College/University Chemical Dependency Program Directors  
County Prevention Specialists  
Native American Treatment and Prevention Providers  
Washington State Association of Counties  
Other Interested Parties

**FROM:** Deb Cummins, Certification Policy Manager *signed by Deb Cummins*  
Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse

**SUBJECT:** Use of the title CDPT between July 1, 2009, and June 30, 2010

As of July 1, 2009, only those persons in training to become a Chemical Dependency Professional (CDP) that applied for and received the new CDP Trainee (CDPT) certificate from Department of Health (DOH) and are working in a Division of Alcohol and Substance Abuse (DASA) approved facility, will be able to refer to themselves and sign clinical documents as a CDPT.

Persons in training to become a CDP that currently have a registered counselor (RC) certificate from DOH and have not applied for and received the new CDPT certificate and are working in a DASA approved facility, must refer to themselves and sign clinical documents as an RC.

Prior to obtaining your new credential, you must use the title RC until you have received a new CDPT certificate. You may continue to work in the capacity of a CDPT, obtain educational requirements, and acquire experience hours toward your CDP certification until July 1, 2010. At that time you must have obtained a CDPT certification to be able to continue to practice.

Beginning July 1, 2009, no new RC credentials will be issued. If an applicant for an RC certificate was received by DOH with a date stamp no later than June 30, 2009, a final RC credential will be issued. The RC credential will be abolished July 1, 2010.

On July 1, 2009, the rule changes to RCW 18.205.040 are in effect. The **title** CDPT can no longer be used or signed by an RC or any other health professional that has not received the credential. The use of the **titles** CDP and CDPT are protected under RCW 18.205.040.

You can apply for a CDPT credential beginning July 1, 2009. The application will be available on the following website: <http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/Professions/ChemicalDep/Default.htm>. Please share this memo with your staff members and colleagues.

cc: DASA All Staff