STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Home and Community Living Administration
Residential Care Services • P.O. Box 45600 • Olympia, Washington 98504

06/24/2026

HCLA: AFH #2026-023

CR-101 Filed to Propose Amendments to Chapter 388-76 WAC Adult Family Home Minimum Licensing Requirements- Discharge Notice, Background Checks and Windows

Dear Adult Family Home Provider:

The Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) (department) is considering amending sections of Chapter 388-76 WAC, Adult Family Home Minimum Licensing Requirements. These changes are needed to:

- Remove the background check requirement for spouses and domestic partners of entity representatives with no ownership interest in the business who do not live in the home.
- Clarify the background check requirements in WAC 388-76-10161 for household members.
- Update WAC 388-76-10616 for alignment with statute, as requested by petition.
- Update WAC 388-76-10795 related to resident bedroom windows and emergency escape access in new AFHs.

A CR-101 (WSR 26-13-037) was filed with the Office of the Code Reviser on June 10, 2026, to announce the consideration of changing the rules and begin the rulemaking process. You can find a link to the CR-101 and related rulemaking information on DSHS Home & Community Living Administration FKA Aging & Long-Term Support Administration | DSHS. Please check that webpage for updates as the rulemaking progresses. You can also find RCS rulemaking projects on this site: RCS Rulemaking | DSHS.

Thank you for your continued commitment to client health and safety. For questions related to this rulemaking, please contact Colleen Jensen, Adult Family Home Policy Program Manager at rcspolicy@dshs.wa.gov or 564-999-3182.

Sincerely,

Amy Abbott, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: *"Partnering with People"*