



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

November 9, 2022

AL TSA: CCRSS #2022-030
CR-103E FILED TO EXTEND EMERGENCY RULE AMENDING CERTIFIED
COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS REQUIREMENTS FOR
CERTIFICATION EVALUATIONS

Dear Certified Community Residential Services and Supports Provider:

On August 6, 2020, Residential Care Services (RCS) filed the initial emergency rule related to certification evaluations. The rule amendment was originally suspended under [WSR 20-17-012](#) and refiled without interruption through this current filing under [WSR 22-22-060](#) which will expire February 25, 2023. The emergency rule has been adopted to allow the department additional time to complete certification evaluations when it is safe and practical to do so.

Although the threat of COVID-19 to our most vulnerable populations continues, we are seeing improvement and RCS staff and contractors are resuming certification evaluations. The current rule states the Department of Social and Health Services (department) may conduct an on-site certification evaluation for each service provider at any time, but at least once every two years. The emergency rule eliminates the maximum two-year time frame, lengthening the amount of time allowed to complete certification evaluations.

RCS is currently working on a permanent rule to adopt the time frame the emergency rule was in place, and to identify when the certification evaluations will be back in compliance. We anticipate this being the final emergency rule filing.

Thank you for your continued commitment to client health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Hoeman, Policy Program Manager, at (360) 725-3210 or Debbie.Hoeman@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Amy Abbott, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: *"Transforming Lives"*