



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

April 15, 2024

AL TSA: ESF #2024-012
ENVIRONMENTAL RISK ASSESSMENT – SUICIDE AND SELF-HARM

Dear Administrator/Provider:

Residential Care Services (RCS) was asked to clarify the regulation regarding the requirement for a Risk Assessment (RA), identifying the risks in the physical environment for a resident at high risk for suicide or self-harm, [WAC 388-107-0945](#).

It was determined that all Enhanced Services Facilities (ESF) must have a current RA on file, that is approved by both the Department of Health (DOH) Construction Review Services (CRS) and RCS. If a facility has a change to policy, procedure or physical environment that affects the RA in anyway, the ESF must submit an updated RA to RCS.

All currently licensed ESF's must submit a completed and signed (by administrator or licensee) RA to RCS by April 30, 2024. Facilities are also required to train their staff on their policy regarding residents who are deemed to be at high risk of suicide or self-harm.

Future ESFs must have an RA that is approved by DOH CRS and RCS prior to licensing.

An optional RA template is available by clicking [here](#).

Thank you for your continued commitment to resident health and safety. If you have any questions please contact Sondra Haas, Policy Program Manager, at (360) 688-0715 or sondra.haas@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

Amy Abbott, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: "Transforming Lives"