



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

April 6, 2026

HCLA: NH #2026-016
Nursing Home (NH) License Fee Increase

Dear Nursing Home Administrator:

The 2026-2027 Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) Operating Budget has been modified in accordance with [RCW 18.51.050](#) License-Issuance, renewal-Fee-Display which states “*prior to the issuance or renewal of the license, the licensee shall pay a license fee.*” The annual per bed licensing fee for Nursing Home (NH) is established in the Omnibus Appropriations Act and any amendments or additions made to this act are identified in the budget summary materials available online Information at [Washington State Fiscal Information](#) under Budget Bills and Documents headings.

The current annual licensing fee for NHs has been increased by the legislature with the passage of Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5167 ([ESSB5167](#)). NH fees will change from \$814 per bed annually to \$834 per bed annually beginning fiscal year 2027, which will be effective on July 1, 2026. Residential Care Services (RCS) has worked with the Office of Financial Management (OFM) to adjust billing statements to reflect the increase in the annual licensing fee.

If your nursing home license renewal date falls between July 1, 2026 and August 1, 2026, the billing statements have been mailed on March 15 and April 15 respectively, and will reflect the change in the per bed annual licensing fee.

For questions related to the NH fee increase please contact Michael Gardner, Business Operations and Analysis Unit Manager at (360) 725-3600 or RCSBOA@dshs.wa.gov

Sincerely,

Amy Abbott, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: “Partnering with People”