

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES ADMINISTRATION  
Olympia, Washington

---

TITLE: POSSESSION OF WEAPONS IN DDA-FUNDED COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL PROGRAMS 6.07

---

Authority: [Title 71A RCW](#) *Developmental Disabilities*  
[Chapter 388-101 WAC](#) *Certified Community Residential Services and Support*  
[Chapter 388-101D WAC](#) *Requirements for Providers of Residential Supports*

### **PURPOSE**

When providing paid support to voluntary program participants, the Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) must balance the rights of individual participants with the safety of others, including housemates, staff, and community members. This policy establishes the process that must be followed when a person receiving supports in certain community residential service programs chooses to possess a weapon.

### **SCOPE**

This policy applies to clients age 18 and over who receive services in the following programs:

- Companion Homes (CH);
- Group Homes (GH);
- Group Training Homes (GTH);
- State-Operated Living Alternatives (SOLA); and
- Supported Living (SL).

### **DEFINITIONS**

**Weapon** means any object, instrument, explosive, or chemical that is: designed to inflict harm or injury to another person; or used to threaten harm or inflict injury to another person. This includes, but is not limited to, firearms, swords, knives (other than kitchen knives), bows and arrows, or other similar weapons.

### **POLICY**

- A. DDA respects the rights of clients receiving DDA-funded residential services to own and possess items of their choosing as long as those items do not create an unsafe, unhealthy,

