



RULE-MAKING ORDER EMERGENCY RULE ONLY

CR-103E (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.350 and 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: November 17, 2021

TIME: 9:02 AM

WSR 21-23-107

Agency: Department of Social and Health Services (department) Aging and Long-Term Support Administration

Effective date of rule:

Emergency Rules

- Immediately upon filing.
- Later (specify) 11/23/21

Any other findings required by other provisions of law as precondition to adoption or effectiveness of rule?

- Yes
 - No
- If Yes, explain:

Purpose: The department is extending the amendment of the rule listed below to assure Certified Community Residential Services and Supports (CCRSS) providers are not significantly impeded from providing services and support to clients during the COVID-19 pandemic. Governor Inslee's proclamation 20-18 and subsequent extensions identified that the pandemic has resulted in disruptions of long-term care systems, including the ability to safely conduct inspections. The governor's proclamations included the suspension of licensing inspections for all long-term care settings with the exception of CCRSS settings. Current rule states the department may conduct an on-site certification evaluation for each service provider at any time, but at least once every two years. The amendment lengthens the amount of time to complete certification evaluations that are currently suspended for consistency and safety across all programs regulated by the department. The amendment will allow the department additional time to complete certification evaluations when it is safe and practical to do so. The department filed a CR-101 under WSR 20-24-092 and is continuing the process of permanent rule-making. In addition, under the rule development phase of rule-making, the department is in discussions with stakeholders about adding language to the rules to explain the circumstances and time periods under which suspension of rules due to COVID is necessary. In the meantime, the department is extending the emergency rule under RCW 34.05.350

Citation of rules affected by this order:

- New: None
- Repealed: None
- Amended: WAC 388-101-3130
- Suspended: None

Statutory authority for adoption: RCWs 71A.12.030 and 71A.12.080

Other authority:

EMERGENCY RULE

Under RCW 34.05.350 the agency for good cause finds:

- That immediate adoption, amendment, or repeal of a rule is necessary for the preservation of the public health, safety, or general welfare, and that observing the time requirements of notice and opportunity to comment upon adoption of a permanent rule would be contrary to the public interest.
- That state or federal law or federal rule or a federal deadline for state receipt of federal funds requires immediate adoption of a rule.

Reasons for this finding: The threat of COVID-19 to our most vulnerable populations is significant, especially for those receiving long-term care services in their homes and congregate settings, such as CCRSS settings. Current CCRSS rules ensure the department may conduct on-site certification evaluations of each CCRSS service provider at any time, but at least every two years. Due to the suspension of certification evaluations, as proclaimed for all other long-term care settings related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the amendment allows additional time to complete the certification evaluations when the pandemic subsides.

**Note: If any category is left blank, it will be calculated as zero.
No descriptive text.**

**Count by whole WAC sections only, from the WAC number through the history note.
A section may be counted in more than one category.**

The number of sections adopted in order to comply with:

Federal statute:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Federal rules or standards:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

The number of sections adopted at the request of a nongovernmental entity:

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:

New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
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The number of sections adopted using:

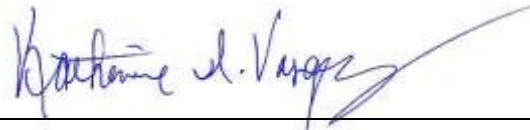
Negotiated rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Pilot rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>0</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>
Other alternative rule making:	New	<u>0</u>	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	<u>0</u>

Date Adopted: November 17, 2021

Name: Katherine I. Vasquez

Title: DSHS Rules Coordinator

Signature:



WAC 388-101-3130 Certification evaluation. (1) The department may conduct an on-site certification evaluation of each service provider at any time (~~, but at least once every two years~~).

(2) During certification evaluations the service provider's administrator or designee must:

(a) Cooperate with department representatives during the on-site visit;

(b) Provide all contractor records, client records, and other relevant information requested by the department representatives;

(c) Ensure the service provider's administrator or designee is available during any visit to respond to questions or issues identified by department representatives; and

(d) Ensure the service provider's administrator or designee is present at the exit conference.