



# RULE-MAKING ORDER PERMANENT RULE ONLY

## CR-103P (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.360)

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
FILED

DATE: September 24, 2020

TIME: 8:23 AM

WSR 20-20-004

**Agency:** Department of Social and Health Services, Economic Services Administration

**Effective date of rule:**

**Permanent Rules**

- 31 days after filing.  
 Other (specify) (If less than 31 days after filing, a specific finding under RCW 34.05.380(3) is required and should be stated below)

**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 amending WAC 388-418-0011, What is a mid-certification review, and do I have to complete one in order to keep receiving benefits?. The 2020 Supplemental Operating Budget provides for elimination of the Mid-Certification Review (MCR) requirement for Aged, Blind, or Disabled (ABD) program recipients who are age 65 or older. This change eliminates a barrier to ongoing ABD program benefits for the aged population. MCRs for this population are no longer required effective July 1, 2020, as reflected in emergency amendments filed under WSR 20-14-085.

**Citation of rules affected by this order:**

New: None  
Repealed: None  
Amended: WAC 388-418-0011  
Suspended: None

**Statutory authority for adoption:** RCW 74.04.050, RCW 74.04.055, RCW 74.04.057, RCW 74.08.090, RCW 74.04.510

**Other authority:** ESSB 6168, Chapter 357, Laws of 2020

**PERMANENT RULE (Including Expedited Rule Making)**

Adopted under notice filed as WSR 20-16-091 on July 30, 2020 (date).

Describe any changes other than editing from proposed to adopted version: None

If a preliminary cost-benefit analysis was prepared under RCW 34.05.328, a final cost-benefit analysis is available by contacting:

Name: N/A

Address:

Phone:

Fax:

TTY:

Email:

Web site:

Other:

**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Federal statute:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Federal rules or standards:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
Recently enacted state statutes:	New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___

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

New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
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**The number of sections adopted on the agency's own initiative:**

New	___	Amended	___	Repealed	___
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**The number of sections adopted in order to clarify, streamline, or reform agency procedures:**

New	___	Amended	<u>1</u>	Repealed	___
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**The number of sections adopted using:**

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

**Date Adopted:** September 23, 2020

**Name:** Katherine I. Vasquez

**Title:** DSHS Rules Coordinator

**Signature:**



**WAC 388-418-0011 What is a mid-certification review, and do I have to complete one in order to keep receiving benefits?** (1) A **mid-certification review** (MCR) is a form we send you to ask about your current circumstances. We use the answers you give us to decide if you are still eligible for benefits and to calculate your monthly benefits.

(2) If you receive cash assistance or Basic Food benefits, you must complete a mid-certification review unless you meet one of the exceptions below:

(a) You **do not** have to complete a mid-certification review for cash assistance if you:

(i) Only receive Refugee Cash Assistance as described under WAC 388-400-0030; ~~((or))~~

(ii) Receive aged, blind, or disabled (ABD) program assistance as described under WAC 388-400-0060 and are age sixty-five or older; or

(iii) Have a review period of six months or less.

(b) You **do not** have to complete a mid-certification review for Basic food if:

(i) Your assistance unit has a certification period of six months or less; or

(ii) All adults in your assistance unit are elderly or disabled and have no earned income.

(3) **When we send the review form:**

<b>If you must complete a MCR ...</b>	<b>We send your review form ...</b>
(a) For one program such as Basic Food.	In the fifth month of your certification or review period. You must complete your review by the 10th day of month six.
(b) For two or more programs, and all programs have a 12-month certification or review period.	In the fifth month of your certification or review period. You must complete your review by the 10th day of month six.
(c) For Basic Food and another program when either program has a certification or review period between six and twelve months.	In the fifth month of your Basic Food certification period when you receive Basic Food and another program. You must complete your review by the 10th day of month six of your Basic Food certification.

(4) If you must complete a mid-certification review, we send you the review form with questions about your current circumstances. You can choose to complete the review in one of the following ways:

(a) **Complete the form and return it to us.** For us to count your mid-certification review as complete, you must take all of the steps below:

(i) Complete the review form, telling us about changes in your circumstances we ask about;

(ii) Sign and date the form;

(iii) Give us proof of any changes you report. If you report a change that will increase your benefits without giving proof of this change, we will not increase your benefits;

(iv) If you receive temporary assistance for needy families and you are working or self-employed, you must give us proof of your income even if it has not changed; and

(v) Mail or turn in the completed form and any required proof to us by the due date on the review.

(b) **Complete the mid-certification review over the phone.** For us to count your mid-certification review as complete, you must take all of the steps below:

(i) Contact us at the phone number on the review form, telling us about changes in your circumstances we ask about;

(ii) Give us proof of any changes you report. We may be able to verify some information over the phone. If you report a change that will increase your benefits without giving proof of this change, we will not increase your benefits;

(iii) If you receive temporary assistance for needy families and you are working or self-employed, you must give us proof of your income even if it has not changed; and

(iv) Mail or turn in any required proof to us by the due date on the review.

(c) **Complete the application process for another program.** If we approve an application for another program in the month you must complete your mid-certification review, we use the application to complete your review when the same person is head of household for the application and the mid-certification review.

(5) If your benefits change because of what we learned in your mid-certification review, the change takes effect the next month even if this does not give you ten days notice before we change your benefits.

(6) If you do not complete your required mid-certification review, we stop your benefits at the end of the month the review was due.

(7) **Late reviews.** If you complete the mid-certification review after the last day of the month the review was due, we process the review as described below based on when we receive the review:

(a) **Mid-certification reviews you complete by the last day of the month after the month the review was due:** We determine your eligibility for ongoing benefits. If you are eligible, we reinstate your benefits based on the information in the review.

(b) **Mid-certification reviews you complete after the last day of the month after the month the review was due:** We treat this review as a request to send you an application. For us to determine if you are eligible for benefits, you must complete the application process as described in chapter 388-406 WAC.