



EXPEDITED RULE MAKING

CR-105 (December 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.353)

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: March 04, 2019

TIME: 3:10 PM

WSR 19-06-052

Agency: Department of Social and Health Services, Aging and Long-Term Support Administration

Title of rule and other identifying information: (describe subject) The department is amending WAC 388-78A-2460 "Quality assurance committee".

Purpose of the proposal and its anticipated effects, including any changes in existing rules: The change is necessary to correct a typographical error by removing the word "not" in subsection (4) to be consistent with RCW 18.20.390.

Reasons supporting proposal: The change is necessary to assure compliance with requirements of RCW 18.20.390, which governs quality assurance committees in assisted living facilities.

Statutory authority for adoption: Chapter 18.20 RCW, RCW 18.20.090

Statute being implemented:

Is rule necessary because of a:

- | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Federal Law? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| Federal Court Decision? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |
| State Court Decision? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No |

If yes, CITATION:

Name of proponent: (person or organization) Department of Social and Health Services

- Private
 Public
 Governmental

Name of agency personnel responsible for:

	Name	Office Location	Phone
Drafting:	Jeanette K. Childress	PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504	360-725-2591
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Agency comments or recommendations, if any, as to statutory language, implementation, enforcement, and fiscal matters:

Expedited Adoption - Which of the following criteria was used by the agency to file this notice:

- Relates only to internal governmental operations that are not subject to violation by a person;
- Adopts or incorporates by reference without material change federal statutes or regulations, Washington state statutes, rules of other Washington state agencies, shoreline master programs other than those programs governing shorelines of statewide significance, or, as referenced by Washington state law, national consensus codes that generally establish industry standards, if the material adopted or incorporated regulates the same subject matter and conduct as the adopting or incorporating rule;
- Corrects typographical errors, make address or name changes, or clarify language of a rule without changing its effect;
- Content is explicitly and specifically dictated by statute;
- Have been the subject of negotiated rule making, pilot rule making, or some other process that involved substantial participation by interested parties before the development of the proposed rule; or
- Is being amended after a review under RCW 34.05.328.

Expedited Repeal - Which of the following criteria was used by the agency to file notice:

- The statute on which the rule is based has been repealed and has not been replaced by another statute providing statutory authority for the rule;
- The statute on which the rule is based has been declared unconstitutional by a court with jurisdiction, there is a final judgment, and no statute has been enacted to replace the unconstitutional statute;
- The rule is no longer necessary because of changed circumstances; or
- Other rules of the agency or of another agency govern the same activity as the rule, making the rule redundant.

Explanation of the reason the agency believes the expedited rule-making process is appropriate pursuant to RCW 34.05.353(4):

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO

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Agency: DSHS/ALTA/RCS

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Other:


AND RECEIVED BY (date) 5:00 p.m. May 6, 2019

Date: February 28, 2019

Name: Katherine I. Vasquez

Title: DSHS Rules Coordinator

Signature:



WAC 388-78A-2460 Quality assurance committee. (1) To ensure the proper delivery of services and the maintenance and improvement in quality of care through self-review, any assisted living facility licensed under this chapter may maintain a quality assurance committee that, at a minimum, includes:

- (a) A licensed registered nurse under chapter 18.79 RCW;
- (b) The administrator; and
- (c) Three other members from the staff of the assisted living facility.

(2) When established, the quality assurance committee shall meet at least quarterly to identify issues that may adversely affect quality of care and services to residents and to develop and implement plans of action to correct identified quality concerns or deficiencies in the quality of care provided to residents.

(3) To promote quality of care through self-review without the fear of reprisal, and to enhance the objectivity of the review process, the department shall not require, and the long-term care ombuds program shall not request, disclosure of any quality assurance committee records or reports, unless the disclosure is related to the committee's compliance with this section, if:

- (a) The records or reports are not maintained pursuant to statutory or regulatory mandate; and
- (b) The records or reports are created for and collected and maintained by the committee.

(4) If the assisted living facility refuses to release records or reports that would otherwise be protected under this section, the department may then request only that information that is necessary to determine whether the assisted living facility has a quality assurance committee and to determine that it is operating in compliance with this section. However, if the assisted living facility offers the department documents generated by, or for, the quality assurance committee as evidence of compliance with assisted living facility requirements, the documents are (~~not~~) protected as quality assurance committee documents when in the possession of the department.

(5) Good faith attempts by the committee to identify and correct quality deficiencies shall not be used as a basis for sanctions.

(6) Any records that are created for and collected and maintained by the quality assurance committee shall not be discoverable or admitted into evidence in a civil action brought against an assisted living facility.

(7) Notwithstanding any records created for the quality assurance committee, the facility shall fully set forth in the resident's records, available to the resident, the department, and others as permitted by law, the facts concerning any incident of injury or loss to the resident, the steps taken by the facility to address the resident's needs, and the resident outcome.