



# PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

**CR-101 (August 2017)**  
**(Implements RCW 34.05.310)**

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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FILED

DATE: May 19, 2026

TIME: 9:07 AM

WSR 26-11-052

**Agency:** Dept. of Agriculture

**Subject of possible rule making:** Chapter 16-309 WAC, Cannabis Laboratory Accreditation Standards Program. The Department is considering modifying the chapter to edit the existing requirements and standards.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:** RCW 15.150.030

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:** During the 2022 Legislative Session, HB 1859 directed the WSDA to establish a cannabis laboratory standard for cannabinoid, heavy metals, pesticide, residual solvent, and other testing. In 2024, WSDA finalized rules on the lab standard, and requested a bill, 2SHB 2151, which transferred laboratory accreditation from the Department of Ecology, to WSDA. Rules for the accreditation program were also finalized in 2024, and in 2025, five laboratories were accredited by WSDA to conduct quality assurance and control testing for Washington State's Cannabis Industry.

Now, a year and a half into program establishment, WSDA seeks to improve and clarify rules to provide administrative ease, and an opportunity, after program establishment, for public engagement.

WSDA is considering:

- Expanding and clarifying definitions;
- Simplifying verbiage; and
- Providing laboratories with the opportunity to provide feedback on areas of rule that may require further refinement.

**Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:** WA State Dept. of Health, WA State Dept. of Labor and Industries, WA State Liquor and Cannabis Board

**Process for developing new rule (check all that apply):**

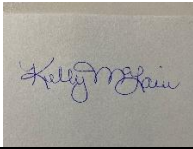
- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) Department staff will discuss any proposed amendments with affected stakeholders.

**Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:**

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Other:

Additional comments:	
<b>Date:</b> May 19, 2026	<b>Signature:</b> 
<b>Name:</b> Kelly McLain	
<b>Title:</b> Assistant Director, Agricultural & Environmental Services	