



# PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

## CR-101 (October 2017) (Implements RCW 34.05.310)

Do NOT use for expedited rule making

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DATE: December 16, 2022

TIME: 4:53 PM

WSR 23-01-097

**Agency:** Department of Health

**Subject of possible rule making:** Chapter 246-824 WAC Dispensing Optician. The Department of Health (department) is considering adopting the health equity continuing education (CE) model rules, WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830, to comply with RCW 43.70.613. The department will also consider whether additional CE hours and course topics should be included.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:** RCW 18.34.120, RCW 43.70.040, RCW 43.70.613, RCW 18.130.040

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:** By January 1, 2024, RCW 43.70.613(1) requires each health profession credentialed under RCW 18.130.040 with a CE requirement to adopt rules requiring completion of health equity CE training at least once every four years.

RCW 43.70.613(3)(b) also directed the department to create model rules establishing minimum standards for health equity CE programs. The department adopted model rules in November 2022. Any rules developed for dispensing opticians must meet or exceed the minimum standards in the model rules found at WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830.

The goal of health equity CE training is to equip health care workers with the skills to recognize and reduce health inequities in their daily work. The content of the health equity trainings include instruction on skills to address structural factors, such as bias, racism, and poverty, which manifest as health inequities.

**Identify other federal and state agencies that regulate this subject and the process coordinating the rule with these agencies:** None.

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

- Negotiated rule making
- Pilot rule making
- Agency study
- Other (describe) Collaborative rule making

**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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Additional comments: Interested parties can participate in the drafting of the proposed rules. The department will be conducting rules workshops with interested parties and subject matter experts. The department will use existing GovDelivery lists and other known contact information to inform interested parties of opportunities to provide input on proposed rule language. To find out more information about our rulemaking, visit [www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov). To subscribe to GovDelivery, please visit [www.doh.wa.gov](http://www.doh.wa.gov), and select the "Subscribe" button at the bottom of the page and then under Health Professions select the Dispensing Optician box.

**Date:** December 16, 2022

**Name:** Kristin Peterson, JD for Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH

**Title:** Chief of Policy for Secretary of Health

**Signature:**

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kristin Peterson".