



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

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

Do **NOT** use for expedited rule making

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STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: September 11, 2025

TIME: 7:40 AM

WSR 25-19-055

Agency: Department of Health

Subject of possible rule making: Midwifery Licensure Requirements -Removing jurisprudence examination requirement. The Department of Health (department) is considering amendments to WAC 246-834-050 Examination requirements for licensure as a midwife, and WAC 246-834-060 Initial application requirements for licensure as a midwife. The department is considering reducing barriers to enter the midwifery workforce and to streamline and shorten the credentialing process.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 18.50.135 and Second Substitute House Bill (2SHB) 1724 (chapter 425, Laws of 2023) codified in RCW 18.130.077.

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: .

In 2023, the legislature passed 2SHB 1724 codified as RCW 18.130.077 which requires disciplining authorities for credentialed professionals to waive education, training, experience, and exam requirements for applicants coming from other states with similar standards. The midwifery profession was not directly impacted because there are currently no states with licensing standards that are substantially equivalent to Washington. However, in alignment with the legislation to reduce licensing barriers, the department is considering removing the jurisprudence examination requirement for midwifery applicants to streamline and shorten the credentialing process. Rulemaking is necessary to amend examination requirements in WAC 246-834-050 and 246-834-060 to support reducing barriers to licensure.

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 Rulemaking

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

Name: Kathy Weed
Address: PO Box 47852
Olympia, WA 98504-7852
Phone: 360-236-4883
Fax: 360-236-2910
TTY: 711
Email: kathy.weed@doh.wa.gov
Web site: www.doh.wa.gov
Other:

(If necessary)

Name:
Address:

Phone:
Fax:
TTY:
Email:
Web site:
Other:

Additional comments: Interested parties can participate in the drafting of the proposed rules. The department will conduct a series of rules workshops. Rulemaking notices will be delivered via the GovDelivery list. To receive notices, please go

to: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/WADOH/subscriber/new . After signing in, please click open the box labeled "Health Systems Quality Assurance." Next click open the box labeled "Health Professions" and then click again on "Midwifery." You may also check the box next to one or more of the other professions or facilities listed to receive information related to that specific topic.	
Date: September 9, 2025 Name: Kristin Peterson, JD for Dennis E. Worsham Title: Chief of Policy for Secretary of Health	Signature: 