



# 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: April 13, 2026

TIME: 11:02 AM

WSR 26-09-062

**Agency:** Department of Health

**Subject of possible rule making:** Updating medical assistant credentialing requirements. The Department of Health (department) is considering rule amendments in chapter 246-827 WAC to update medical assistant credentialing requirements and ensure the rules are current and align with best practices.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:** RCW 18.360.030, 18.360.070, Substitute Senate Bill 5940 (chapter 217, laws of 2024) codified in chapter 18.360 RCW

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

The department recently received feedback from the State Auditor's Office that the medical assistant (MA) application requirements in rule may not be aligned with current application documentation procedures and standards. In response, the department will consider amendments to the MA application requirements under WAC 246-827-0220, 246-827-0300, 246-827-0410, 246-827-0510, 246-827-0530 and other related sections as needed. Amendments could update the application requirements related to how to provide "proof of" high school education or equivalent. The department will consider updating the rule to also include the acceptance of an attestation as proof of high school completion. Amendments to these requirements could reduce administrative barriers for applicants completing application packets and entering the workforce.

Additionally, the department will also consider technical amendments to align chapter 246-827 WAC with the recent implementation of the Medical Assistant-EMT profession established under Substitute Senate Bill 5940 (chapter 217, Laws of 2024), codified in chapter 18.360 RCW. The purpose of these technical amendments is to ensure that the rules are current to align with best practices and ensure consistency and accuracy throughout the chapter. The department will consider technical amendments to the following sections: WAC 246-827-0010, 246-827-0110, 246-827-0220, 246-827-0300, 246-827-0410, 246-827-0430, 246-827-0500, 246-827-0510, 246-827-0530, 246-827-0610, 246-827-0620, 246-827-0630, and other related sections as needed.

**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:**

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Web site:  
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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 "Medical Assistants." 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:** April 13, 2026  
**Name:** Kristin Peterson, JD for Dennis E. Worsham  
**Title:** Chief of Policy for Secretary of Health

**Signature:**  
