

Resuming Fingerprint Requirements for Providers

Dear Provider/Administrator:

This letter is to inform DDA service providers to complete all pending fingerprint checks beginning May 1, 2022.

Due to the public health emergency, Gov. Jay Inslee issued a proclamation temporarily waiving fingerprint checks for providers. In addition, during the height of the pandemic, some fingerprinting locations were closed or reduced their hours.

While the proclamation is still in effect, most fingerprinting sites have reopened and can safely meet the needs of providers.

Emergency WAC 388-06-0550 becomes effective May 1, 2022, resuming the fingerprint requirement for current providers who began working anytime between Nov. 1, 2019-April 30, 2022.

- Current providers and staff with pending fingerprints have 120-days to obtain non-disqualifying fingerprint results from the Background Check Central Unit (BCCU). These providers and staff must have non-disqualifying results dated no later than Aug. 28, 2022.
- New providers hired on or after May 1, 2022, will have 120 days from the date they begin providing care to get their fingerprint results from BCCU.
- **We are asking all new providers have a fingerprint appointment scheduled before providing care, per current [WAC 388-113-0109](#) and emergency [WAC 388-06-0525](#). This requirement has been in place in [chapter 388-113 WAC](#), but not previously enforced because of the proclamation suspending fingerprint checks.**

Putting an emergency WAC into place prior to the end of the proclamation prevents future capacity issues by decreasing the backlog. **If your BCS account has pending fingerprints for staff that are not a current employee, please check archive box on these records in BCS to remove them from pending fingerprint status.**

If you have any questions please contact Chris Cornell, Background Check Project Manager, at 360-485-7436 or chris.cornell@dshs.wa.gov