



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES
Aging and Long-Term Support Administration
PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

April 2, 2024

AL TSA: AFH #2024-013

IMPLEMENTATION OF PASSED LEGISLATION SHB 2015: INCENTIVIZING ADULT FAMILY HOMES TO INCREASE BED CAPACITY TO SEVEN OR EIGHT BEDS

Dear Adult Family Home Provider:

The Washington State Legislature passed, with a partial veto, [SHB 2015](#) in the 2024 legislative session. This bill amends [Chapter 70.128](#) RCW to establish expedited inspection timeframes for the requirement that an adult family home must have had two full inspections with no enforcement actions before they can apply for a capacity increase to seven or eight beds. For adult family homes that apply to increase bed capacity to seven or eight beds prior to January 1, 2026, and have met the other application requirements, the expedited timeframe allows DSHS to complete the first inspection upon receipt of an application and to complete a second inspection if at least six months have passed since the first inspection. The partial veto was related to an emergency clause in Section 3. The rest of the bill was approved.

Please note this change only affects the inspection requirement. It does not remove any eligibility requirements. To be eligible for a capacity increase to seven or eight beds homes must still have been licensed for at least twenty-four months and have been licensed for six residents for at least 12 months before submitting an application. See WAC [388-76-10031](#) for all requirements.

The statute change is effective June 6, 2024. You can find the full legislation as passed [here](#). The statute change will not be reflected online for several weeks while the Code Reviser is working on the update. Chapter 388-76 WAC will be updated to reflect these changes. Residential Care Services will follow the statutory requirements while the rule change is in progress.

Application Process

Beginning June 6, until January 1, 2026, homes meeting all the requirements in RCW [70.128.066](#) and WAC [388-76-10031](#), except the two full inspections, may apply to increase capacity to seven or eight beds by submitting a completed Licensed Bed Capacity Increase Form (DSHS [06-168](#)).

- **Eligible homes that have not received any inspections** will receive an initial inspection after submitting their application and will need to wait six months for the second inspection. The department will keep the application and prioritize a second inspection after six months. After completion of the second inspection, the department will finish processing the application.
- **Eligible homes that have received one inspection** will receive their second inspection after submitting their application and the department will finish processing the application after the inspection is completed.

ALTSA Provider Letter: **IMPLEMENTATION OF PASSED LEGISLATION SHB 2015: INCENTIVIZING ADULT FAMILY HOMES TO INCREASE BED CAPACITY TO SEVEN OR EIGHT BEDS**

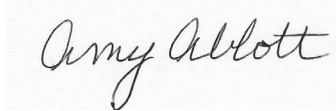
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Look for a Gov Delivery notification for the upcoming rulemaking related to this change. You can use this [link](#) to sign up or change your Gov Delivery email preferences.

If you have any questions, please contact Colleen Jensen, Policy Program Manager, at (564) 999-3182 or colleen.jensen1@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amy Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered within a light gray rectangular box.

Amy Abbott, Director
Residential Care Services

DSHS: *"Transforming Lives"*