

STATE OF WASHINGTON DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Aging and Long-Term Support Administration PO Box 45600, Olympia, Washington 98504-5600

December 3, 2021

ALTSA: CCRSS #2021-060 CR-103E FILED TO EXTEND EMERGENCY RULE AMENDING CERTIFIED COMMUNITY RESIDENTIAL SERVICES AND SUPPORTS REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTIFICATION EVALUATIONS

Dear Certified Community Residential Services and Supports Provider:

On August 6, 2020, Residential Care Services (RCS) filed the initial emergency rule related to certification evaluations. The rule was filed under <u>WSR 20-17-012</u> which expired December 4, 2020. Due to the continued public health emergency, RCS has extended the emergency rule with additional filings on December 3, 2020, under <u>WSR 20-01-010</u>, April 1, 2021, under <u>WSR 21-08-036</u>, July 26, 2021, under <u>WSR 21-16-038</u> and November 17, 2021, under <u>WSR 21-23-107</u> which expires on March 17, 2022.

The emergency rule has been adopted to allow the department additional time to complete certification evaluations when it is safe and practical to do so. The amendment eliminates the maximum two-year timeframe, lengthening the amount of time allowed to complete certification evaluations. This helps assure Certified Community Residential Services and Supports (CCRSS) providers are not significantly impeded from providing services and supports to clients during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Additionally, RCS filed a CR-101 on November 25, 2020, under <u>WSR 20-24-092</u> to begin permanent rule making. Ongoing discussions with interested parties are being held related to this rule making.

Thank you for your continued commitment to client health and safety. If you have any questions, please contact Debbie Hoeman, Policy Program Manager, at (360) 725-3210 or Debbie.Hoeman@dshs.wa.gov.

Sincerely, Mike Anbesse

Mike Anbesse, Director Residential Care Services

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