



# 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: June 27, 2025

TIME: 9:47 AM

WSR 25-14-066

**Agency:** Department of Social and Health Services, Home and Community Living Administration, HCS

**Subject of possible rule making:** The Department of Social and Health Services (department) is planning to create two new WAC sections: 388-71-0897 "Who must complete the 21-hour basic training and by when must it be completed?" and 388-71-0899 "What is the 21-hour training?" based on ESHB 1142 (Chapter 18, Laws of 2025). Additionally, the department is planning to amend the following WACs: 388-71-0503, 388-71-0523, 388-71-0548, 388-71-0836, 388-71-0860, 388-71-0880, 388-71-0888, 388-71-0971, 388-71-0977, and 388-71-1001.

The purpose of these changes and additions include:

- Compliance with Substitute House Bill 1142 passed during the 2025 legislative session;
- Replacing the terms Individual Provider (or "IP") with Long-Term Care worker where required (and otherwise appropriate);
- Removing WAC language that is no longer accurate referencing Individual Provider service contracts and Individual Overpayment processes;
- Creation of new WAC describing the training requirements of Spouse and Domestic Partners caring only for their spouse or domestic partner regardless of employer or care setting.

Other changes necessary for implementation of ESHB1142, changes and corrections related to numerical representation, consistency, and inclusive language may also be included. Other related rules may be amended as needed.

**Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject:** RCW 18.88B.010, 18.88B.021, 18.88B.041, 74.08.090, 74.39A.009, 74.39A.070, 74.39A.074, 74.39A.076, 74.39A.341

**Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish:** These changes are required due to amendments to existing law, the creation of new law related to Long-Term Care (LTC) worker training that will replace the terms "Individual Provider" and "IP" with "Long-Term Care Worker," and aligns training requirements for long-term care workers regardless of employer and/or care setting.

The new law is to be implemented on July 1, 2026, regarding training requirements for Long-Term care workers who are the spouse or domestic partner of their spouse or domestic partner receiving LTC services including the requirement to complete 21 hours of Basic Training within 120 days of being hired. The 21-hour Basic Training course components also require definition. Other edits related to clarity, grammar, and consistency are also included.

**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. DSHS welcomes the public to take part in developing the rules. Anyone interested should contact the staff person identified below. At a later date, DSHS will file a proposal within the Office of the Code Reviser with a notice of proposed rulemaking. A copy of the proposal will be sent to everyone on the mailing list and to anyone who requests a copy.

**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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Additional comments:

**Date:** June 27, 2025

**Name:** Katherine I. Vasquez

**Title:** DSHS Rules Coordinator

**Signature:**

