

LEARN MORE ABOUT

HEALTH EQUITY

Join our rule workshops to learn more about health equity continuing education for nurses.



HEALTH EQUITY

Health equity exists when all people can attain their full health potential.



ESSB 5229

ESSB 5229 directs the nursing commission to create rules that require nurses to take health equity continuing education.



RULE WORKSHOPS

Join our workshops to collaborate on rules for health equity continuing education.

HEALTH EQUITY CONTINUING EDUCATION

The Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (commission) will be holding a series of rule workshops to implement Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5229. In 2021, state legislators passed ESSB 5229 directing the Department of Health (DOH), boards, and commissions to create rules for health professionals to take health equity continuing education. DOH has developed model rules with minimum standards and are working towards identifying a free training program. Boards and commissions for professions with CE requirements must adopt rules that meet or exceed these minimum standards by **January 1, 2024**.

During our rule workshops, we will review the minimum standards for health equity continuing education developed and adopted by the Department of Health. All are welcome and encouraged to participate. These workshops will be held both in-person and virtually via the Zoom platform. Evening options will also be available for those who are unable to attend during business hours.

JOIN THE DISCUSSION

In-person and Virtual Rule Workshops

Friday, February 3, 2023, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- Washington State Dept. of Labor & Industries (L&I), 7273 Linderson Way SW, Tumwater, WA 98501-5414, RM S117
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=1234567890>

Wednesday, February 8, 2023, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- Battleground Community Center, 912 East Main Street, Battle Ground, WA 98604, Moulton Falls Room
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=1234567890>

Friday, February 17, 2023, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- Whatcom Community College, 237 W. Kellogg Road Bellingham, WA 98226, Syre 107/108 Classroom
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=1234567890>

Friday, February 24, 2023, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.

- Yakima Valley College, S.16th Ave & Nob Hill Blvd, Yakima, WA 98902, Conference Center, RM 109
- <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=1234567890>

Virtual Evening Rule Workshops

Wednesday, February 15, 2023, 6-7 p.m.

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=1234567890>

Wednesday, February 22, 2023, 6-7 p.m.

- <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom-join?secret=1234567890>

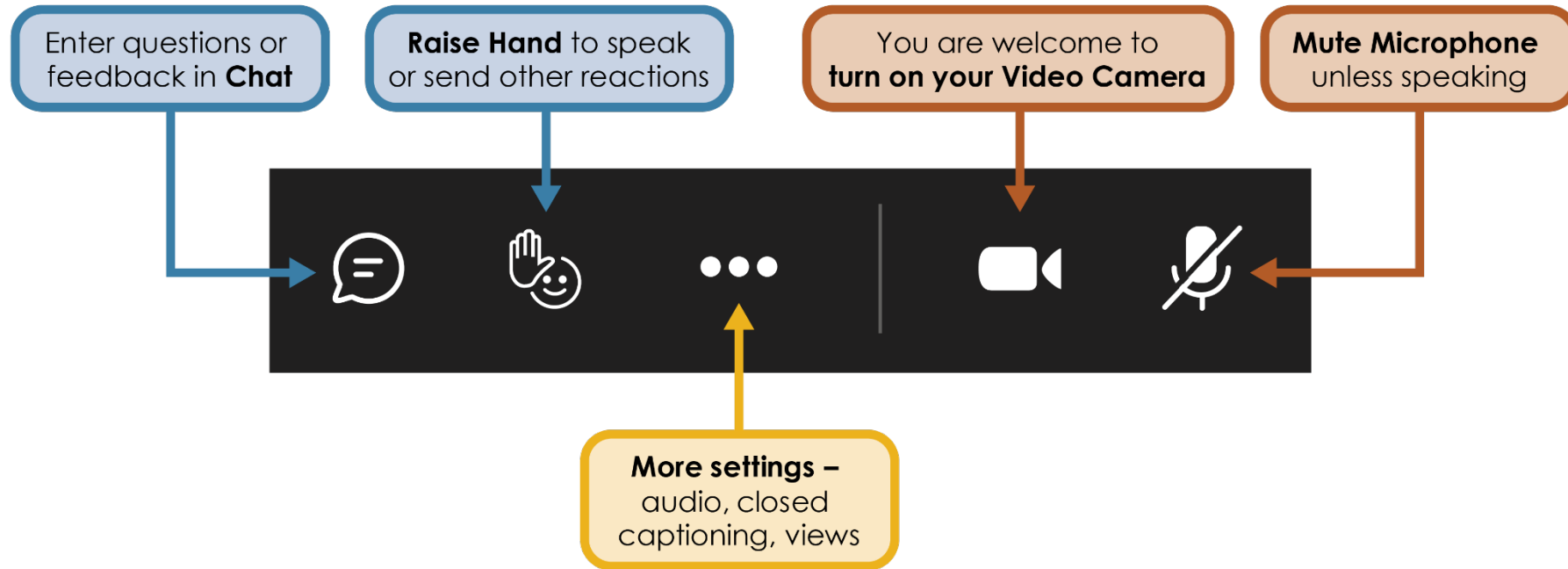




HEALTH EQUITY CONTINUING EDUCATION RULES WORKSHOP

Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC)

Zoom Features We Will Use Today



Tips

- Try to be present
- State your name before speaking
- Speak clearly

Background and ESSB 5229 Overview

- Washington State Legislature passed **Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill (ESSB) 5229** during 2021.
- It requires that health care professionals take health equity continuing education (CE) every **four (4) years**.
- The bill requires the Department of Health to:
 - **Develop minimum standards** (model rules) by 1/1/2023.
 - Identify a **free training program** (that meets minimum standards) by 7/1/2023.
- The Department of Health has developed and adopted model rules with minimum standards effective 12/24/2022 and is in the process of identifying a free training program.
- Boards and Commissions for professions with a CE requirement must **adopt rules that meet or exceed minimum standards by 1/1/2024**.



PREPROPOSAL STATEMENT OF INQUIRY

CR-101 (October 2017)
(Implements RCW 34.05.310)
Do NOT use for expedited rule making

CODE REVISER USE ONLY

OFFICE OF THE CODE REVISER
STATE OF WASHINGTON
FILED

DATE: January 12, 2023

TIME: 9:11 PM

WSR 23-03-069

Agency: Department of Health – Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission

Subject of possible rule making: WAC 246-840-220 and other relevant continuing education rule sections in chapter 246-840 WAC. The Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (commission) is considering adopting the health equity continuing education model rules, WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830, to comply RCW 43.70.613. The commission will also consider whether additional continuing education hours and course topics should be included.

Statutes authorizing the agency to adopt rules on this subject: RCW 18.79.010, 18.79.110, 18.79.260, and RCW 43.70.613.

Reasons why rules on this subject may be needed and what they might accomplish: In 2021, the legislature passed Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5229, codified as RCW 43.70.613, requiring health professionals credentialed under RCW 18.130.040 with a CE requirement, to complete health equity continuing education (CE) training every four years as described in RCW 43.70.613.

The Department of Health (department) developed proposed model rules establishing minimum standards for health equity CE training for health care professionals to include instruction on skills to address structural factors, such as bias, racism, and poverty, that manifest as health inequities. The department adopted the model rules in November 2022. Any rules developed by the commission must meet or exceed the minimum standards in the model rules found at WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830.

The commission is considering opening continuing competency rules to establish nursing-specific content requirements for health equity education training.

Rulemaking will provide the opportunity for interested party engagement, rule clarification, and possible amendments to address the identified concerns.

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

Interested parties can participate in the decision to adopt the new rule and formulation of the proposed rule before publication by contacting:

| | |
|---|-------------------------|
| Name: Jessilyn Dagum | (If necessary) Name: |
| Address: PO Box 47864, Olympia, WA 98504-7864 | Address: |
| Phone:360-236-3538 | Phone: |

CR-101 Preproposal was filed on January 12, 2023, under WSR 23-03-069, the Nursing Care Quality Assurance Commission (NCQAC) filed a CR-101 to notify the public of the commission’s intent to adopt the minimum standards established in the health equity continuing education model rules, WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830, to comply with RCW 43.70.613 as well as consider whether additional continuing education hours and course topics should be included.

Health Equity Continuing Education Model Rules
WAC 246-12-800 through 246-12-830



WAC 246-12-800

Purpose.

WAC [246-12-810](#) through [246-12-830](#) contain model rules establishing minimum standards for health equity continuing education trainings for health care professionals credentialed under RCW [18.130.040](#) with a continuing education requirement. The rule-making authority for each health profession credentialed under RCW [18.130.040](#) with a continuing education requirement may set standards that exceed the minimum standards in this chapter.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [18.130.040](#) and [43.70.613](#). WSR 22-23-167, § 246-12-800, filed 11/23/22, effective 12/24/22.]

WAC 246-12-810

Definitions.

The definitions in this section and RCW [43.70.613](#) apply throughout WAC [246-12-800](#) through [246-12-830](#) unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

(1) "Department" means the Washington state department of health.

(2) "Health care professional" means an individual credentialed or holding a retired active credential in one of the health professions listed in RCW [18.130.040](#) with a continuing education requirement.

(3) "Health equity" means all people have the same opportunities and equal access in order to attain their full health potential regardless of the color of their skin, ancestry, ethnicity, level of education, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, religion, socioeconomic status, the job they have, the neighborhood they live in, or their ability status.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [18.130.040](#) and [43.70.613](#). WSR 22-23-167, § 246-12-810, filed 11/23/22, effective 12/24/22.]

WAC 246-12-820

Health equity continuing education training minimum hours.

Health care professionals must complete a minimum of two hours in health equity continuing education training every four years, unless the relevant rule-making authority specifies a higher number of hours in rule.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [18.130.040](#) and [43.70.613](#). WSR 22-23-167, § 246-12-820, filed 11/23/22, effective 12/24/22.]

WAC 246-12-830

Health equity continuing education training content.

An education program providing health equity continuing education training must:

(1) Include implicit bias training to identify strategies to reduce bias during assessment and diagnosis and may include, but is not limited to, at least one of the topics included in RCW [43.70.613](#) (3)(c).

(2) Have trainers with demonstrated knowledge and experience related to health equity. Research referenced in the training must be based on current empirical research and known best practices.

(3) Have courses that assess the health care professional's ability to apply health equity concepts into practice in accordance with profession specific rules, which may include, but are not limited to:

(a) An assessment at the end of an in-person or virtual continuing education training to determine knowledge gained during that training; or

(b) A document provided at the end of an in-person or virtual continuing education training that attests attendance at the training.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [18.130.040](#) and [43.70.613](#). WSR 22-23-167, § 246-12-830, filed 11/23/22, effective 12/24/22.]

NCQAC's Rule Section

WAC 246-840-220

Continuing competency requirements—Active status.

(1) Upon license renewal a nurse must attest on a form provided by the department of health declaring completion of the required active nursing practice hours and continuing nursing education hours.

(2) A nurse must complete within a twelve-month period prior to the renewal of licensure:

(a) A minimum of ninety-six hours of active nursing practice; and

(b) A minimum of eight hours of continuing nursing education.

(3) Nurses must complete a qualified suicide prevention training as follows:

(a) A registered nurse, except for registered nurses holding an active certified registered nurse anesthetist license, and licensed practical nurses must complete a one-time, six hour training in suicide assessment, treatment, and management from a qualified suicide prevention training program. The training must be completed by the end of the first full year of practice.

(b) A qualified suicide training program must be on the model list, required under RCW [43.70.442](#), to be accepted.

(c) The hours spent completing a qualified training program in suicide assessment, treatment, and management under this section counts toward continuing competency requirements in subsection (2)(b) of this section.

(4) Nurses who are enrolled in, or have completed prerequisite classes for, an advanced nursing education program are exempt from the continuing competency requirements during their current review period.

Discussion

Questions? Contact us!

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