

WAC 460-16A-200 Debt offering standards. (1) Debt securities may be offered and sold only if the issuer shows a reasonable ability to service the debt.

(2) For purposes of this section, unless otherwise allowed by the administrator, "reasonable ability to service the debt" means:

(a) The issuer must have a positive net worth and not be in the development stage; and

(b) The issuer must demonstrate, based upon the results of its operations for its most recently ended fiscal year and for its latest interim period as reflected in its financial statements, a pro forma earnings to fixed-charges ratio of 1 to 1 or greater.

(3) For purposes of this section:

(a) "Earnings" shall mean pretax income from continuing operations plus fixed charges as defined in (b) of this subsection, adjusted to exclude any interest capitalized during the period.

(b) "Fixed charges" shall mean the total of (i) interest, whether expensed or capitalized, (ii) amortization of debt expense and discount or premium relating to indebtedness, whether expensed or capitalized, and (iii) such portion of rental expense as can be demonstrated to be representative of the interest factor in the particular case.

(c) The pro forma earnings to fixed charges ratio shall be calculated by adjusting the corresponding historical ratio to give effect to the net increase or decrease in interest expense resulting from (i) the proposed issuance of new debt, and (ii) the corresponding retirements of any debt presently outstanding (but only for the period of time outstanding) which will be retired with the proceeds of the proposed offering. If only a portion of the proceeds will be used to retire presently outstanding debt, then only a related portion of interest should be used in the pro forma adjustment.

(d) An issuer may elect to use the definitions of "earnings," "fixed charges," and the method for determining the ratio of earnings to fixed charges set forth in Item 503 of Securities and Exchange Commission Regulation S-K to determine whether that issuer meets the requirement of subsection (2)(b) of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 21.20.450. WSR 91-04-008, § 460-16A-200, filed 1/25/91, effective 2/25/91.]