

RCW 70.175.100 Licensure—Rules. (1) The department shall establish and adopt such standards and rules pertaining to the construction, maintenance, and operation of a rural health care facility and the scope of health care services, and rescind, amend, or modify the rules from time to time as necessary in the public interest. In developing the rules, the department shall consult with representatives of rural hospitals, community mental health centers, public health departments, community and migrant health clinics, and other providers of health care in rural communities. The department shall also consult with third-party payers, consumers, local officials, and others to ensure broad participation in defining regulatory standards and requirements that are appropriate for a rural health care facility.

(2) When developing the rural health care facility licensure rules, the department shall consider the report of the Washington rural health care commission established under chapter 207, Laws of 1988. Nothing in this chapter requires the department to follow any specific recommendation contained in that report except as it may also be included in this chapter.

(3) Upon developing rules, the department shall enter into negotiations with appropriate federal officials to seek medicare approval of the facility and financial participation of medicare and other federal programs in developing and operating the rural health care facility. [1998 c 245 § 119; 1989 1st ex.s. c 9 § 710.]