

Chapter 192-200 WAC

SCHOOL OR TRAINING

WAC

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WAC 192-200-005 Disqualification of students—RCW 50.20.095. (1) **General rule.** If you are registered in a course of study that provides scholastic instruction of twelve or more credit hours per week, you are disqualified from receiving benefits or credit for your waiting week.

(2) **Period of disqualification.** The disqualification starts with the week the instruction begins or the week you left employment to return to school, whichever is earlier. The disqualification ends at midnight on Saturday of the week prior to the first full week in which you are no longer registered for twelve or more hours of instruction. You must certify to the department that you are not currently registered for twelve or more credit hours and will not be registered for twelve or more credit hours for at least sixty days. If you begin classes within sixty days, all benefits paid since the date of your certification will be considered an overpayment. This overpayment is subject to recovery under RCW 50.20.190. If you are registered for classes that begin more than sixty days in the future, you will not be disqualified under this subsection.

(3) **Disqualification not applicable.** The disqualification does not apply if you:

- (a) Are in approved training under RCW 50.20.043;
- (b) Are in an approved self-employment assistance program under RCW 50.20.250; or

(c) Show by a preponderance of the evidence that your student status does not significantly interfere with your actual availability for work when you apply.

(4) **Definitions.** As used in this section:

(a) "School" includes primary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher education as defined in RCW 50.44.037;

(b) "Scholastic instruction" includes all teaching or opportunity for learning subjects other than those of a strictly vocational nature. Subjects of a vocational nature are those embraced in the definition of "training" contained in WAC 192-200-010.

(c) "Twelve or more hours per week" means 12 or more credit hours per week or its equivalent.

(5) **Students.** Students who claim benefits are subject to all of the provisions of Title 50 RCW including:

(a) RCW 50.20.050 dealing with those who leave work voluntarily without good cause;

(b) RCW 50.20.010 (1)(c) requiring claimants to be able and available for and actively seeking work; and

(c) RCW 50.20.240 requiring claimants to provide evidence of their job search activities as requested by the department.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, and 50.20.010. 10-11-046, § 192-200-005, filed 5/12/10, effective 6/12/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-005, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.12.042. 05-01-076, § 192-200-005, filed 12/9/04, effective 1/9/05.]

WAC 192-200-010 Training defined—RCW 50.20.043 and 50.20.250. (1) The term "training" means:

(a) A course of education with the primary purpose of training in skills that will allow you to obtain employment.

(b) A self-employment assistance program that includes entrepreneurial training, approved by the commissioner, that will allow you to become self-employed.

(2) The term "training" does not include a course of education primarily intended to meet the requirements of a baccalaureate or higher degree.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-010, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.12.042. 05-01-076, § 192-200-010, filed 12/9/04, effective 1/9/05.]

WAC 192-200-020 Commissioner approval of training—RCW 50.20.043. (1) **How do I apply for commissioner approved training?** If you wish to attend school or training while you receive unemployment benefits, and the training will interfere with your availability for full-time work, the training must be approved by the department. Contact the department and ask for an application for commissioner approved training. Your completed application must be returned to the unemployment claims telecenter. We will send you a decision, in writing, denying or approving your training application.

(2) **What factors will the department consider when reviewing my application?** The department will consider the following factors:

(a) Your plan for completion of the training;

(b) The nature of the training facility and the quality of the training;

(c) Whether the training relates to an occupation or skill for which there are, or are expected to be, reasonable employment opportunities in the labor markets in which you intend to seek work;

(d) Whether an oversupply of qualified workers exists;

(e) Whether you have the qualifications and aptitudes to successfully complete such training; and

(f) Whether your employment prospects in occupations in which you have training or experience do not exist or have substantially diminished in the labor market to the extent that the department determines you will probably be unemployed for a lengthy period. These diminished prospects could be the result of business or economic conditions in the area, or due to personal reasons such as your health, physical fitness, criminal background, or other circumstances of a similar nature.

(3) What about training that is required by my job?

The commissioner will approve training that is required within an occupation if:

(a) The training is a condition of your continued employment;

(b) The scheduling of the training is determined by your employer or a work related entity, and not by you (the claimant); and

(c) The training meets the requirements of subsections (2)(a), (b), (c), (d), and (e) of this section.

(4) Can academic training be approved? An academic training course may be approved if the conditions of subsections (1) and (2) of this section are met, and the training meets specific requirements for certification, licensing, or specific skills necessary for the occupation.

(5) Can these requirements be waived? In the case of individuals with physical or sensory handicaps, or in other unusual individual circumstances, a written decision of the commissioner may waive any of the requirements of this section on an individual basis.

(6) This section does not apply to training in a self-employment assistance program under RCW 50.20.250.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-020, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 50.20.010 and 50.12.040. 99-08-073, § 192-200-020, filed 4/5/99, effective 5/6/99.]

WAC 192-200-030 May I receive unemployment benefits while I am in training? (1) To be eligible for unemployment benefits while in training, you must meet the following criteria:

(a) The training must be full-time as defined by the training facility but subject to the discretion of the commissioner, including skills training classes designated as full-time by the local WorkSource administrator; and

(b) You must be making satisfactory progress in training. Except as provided in (c) of this subsection, "satisfactory progress" is defined in WAC 192-270-065; or

(c) If you are enrolled in an approved self-employment assistance program under RCW 50.20.250, "satisfactory progress" means you are attending classes and participating in other activities related to setting up a business within the time frames outlined in your approved training plan.

(d) The certification that you are making satisfactory progress in full-time training must be signed by the registrar or equivalent person designated by the training facility.

(2) You must notify the department if you discontinue or suspend training, change your course of study, or reduce enrollment to less than full-time.

(3) If your enrollment drops below full-time or you are not making satisfactory progress, you may be required to show that you are meeting the availability for work and job search requirements of RCW 50.20.010 (1)(c) and 50.20.240, and the provisions of RCW 50.20.080 regarding failure to apply for, or refusal to accept suitable work.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, and 50.20.010. 10-11-046, § 192-200-030, filed 5/12/10, effective 6/12/10. Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-030, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08. Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.12.042. 05-01-076, § 192-200-030, filed 12/9/04, effective 1/9/05.]

WAC 192-200-040 Who is eligible to participate in the self-employment assistance program? (1) Eligibility.

To be eligible for the self-employment assistance program, you must:

(a) Be otherwise eligible for regular unemployment benefits;

(b) Have been identified by the department as likely to exhaust regular unemployment benefits using the profiling model established under RCW 50.20.011 and WAC 192-180-060; and

(c) Enroll and satisfactorily participate in a self-employment assistance program approved by the commissioner.

(2) Likely to exhaust. The department will use the following process to identify claimants who are likely to exhaust for purposes of the self-employment assistance program:

(a) Assign profile scores to individuals with a claim ending during the most recent federal fiscal year (October 1 through September 30) using the model described in WAC 192-180-060.

(b) Find the number of these claimants who actually exhausted regular unemployment benefits and determine their percentage of the entire profiled population;

(c) The result will determine the percentile of profiled scores that will be identified as likely to exhaust. For example, assume during the most recent federal fiscal year, fifteen percent of profiled claimants actually exhaust benefits. This means the eighty-fifth percentile of profile scores will be used to identify claimants who are likely to exhaust.

(d) Determine the lowest score assigned to claimants within this group.

(e) Claimants with that score or higher who file new claims during the following calendar year will be notified by the department they are potentially eligible for the self-employment assistance program.

(3) Satisfactory participation. The department will consider you to be satisfactorily participating if you are making satisfactory progress as defined in WAC 192-200-030 (1)(c).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-040, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08.]

WAC 192-200-045 What training programs may be approved under the self-employment assistance program? (1) To be approved as a training provider under the self-employment assistance program, a training program must include the following:

(a) Entrepreneurial training;

- (b) Business counseling;
- (c) Technical assistance; and
- (d) Requirements to engage in other activities relating to setting up a business and becoming self-employed.

(2) The commissioner will develop and maintain a list of approved training providers.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-045, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08.]

WAC 192-200-050 What criteria will the department use to approve my self-employment assistance training plan? The department will consider the following factors when reviewing your application for the self-employment assistance program:

(1) That you have an adequate financial plan for completing training if your unemployment benefits run out before you complete training;

(2) That you have the qualifications and aptitudes to successfully complete the training; and

(3) That you have certified you will not compete with your former employer for up to one year after completing your training program.

(4) If you modify your training plan, the changes must be approved in advance by your training provider and the department.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-050, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08.]

WAC 192-200-055 What other factors affect my eligibility for benefits under the self-employment assistance program? (1) Any remuneration you receive while enrolled in a self-employment assistance training program will be deducted from your weekly benefit amount as required under RCW 50.20.130.

(2) If you complete your training program before your unemployment benefits run out, you are no longer eligible for benefits unless you meet the availability for work and job search requirements of RCW 50.20.010 (1)(c).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-055, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08.]

WAC 192-200-060 What happens if I do not satisfactorily participate in my self-employment assistance training plan? (1) If your training provider notifies the department that you are not satisfactorily participating in your approved training, the department will notify you in writing that you are no longer eligible for the self-employment assistance program. You will be required to meet the availability for work and job search requirements of RCW 50.20.010 (1)(c) to remain eligible for unemployment benefits.

(2) If you have been removed from the program because you failed to participate in a training plan, you will not be able to reenroll in the program during your current benefit year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 50.12.010, 50.12.040, 50.20.010, 50.20.250(7) and 50.20.012. 07-23-129, § 192-200-060, filed 11/21/07, effective 1/1/08.]