

**WAC 246-310-580 Validity and extensions.** (1) A certificate of need shall be valid for two years: Provided, That one six-month extension may be made if the certificate holder can demonstrate that substantial and continuing progress toward commencement of the project has been made.

(2) In the case of a project involving construction, substantial and continuing progress shall include one of the following:

(a) When review and approval by the department of the final plans for construction is required, the submission of working drawings;

(b) When plan approval is not required by the department, receipt of copies of the working drawings for construction; or

(c) In the event working drawings have not been submitted, the applicant must demonstrate that he or she has made continuous progress toward commencement of the project.

(3) A project for which a certificate of need has been issued shall be commenced during the validity period for the certificate of need.

(4) Applications for extensions of the validity period of certificates of need shall be submitted to the department at least one hundred twenty calendar days before the expiration of the certificate of need, and shall contain such information as may be required by the department to determine the extent of progress toward commencement of construction or other action necessary to a project.

(5) An application for an extension of a certificate of need submitted less than one hundred twenty calendar days before the expiration of the certificate of need shall not be reviewed, unless the applicant can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the department unforeseen occurrences during the last one hundred twenty days of the validity period of the certificate of need prevented commencement of construction as previously anticipated by the applicant.

(6) Commencement of the project shall not be undertaken after the expiration of the certificate of need unless a new certificate of need application has been reviewed and a new certificate of need has been issued by the secretary's designee.

(7) (a) In the case of a request by a nursing home to extend its conversion rights to beds banked under the provisions of RCW 70.38.111(8) for an additional four years, the nursing home must meet the following requirements:

(i) The request shall be made a minimum ninety days prior to the end of the four-year validity period of the original bed banking request.

(ii) The nursing home shall demonstrate it has complied with the applicable notification requirements under WAC 246-310-395;

(iii) The nursing home has and is currently meeting the exemption requirements in WAC 246-310-043; and

(iv) The nursing home has implemented the alternative service or services identified in the bed banking request. If the service or services have not been implemented, an explanation of why such services have not been implemented and rationale for why the department should grant its extension request.

(b) The department shall notify the nursing home within thirty days of the extension request as to whether an extension of the nursing home's conversion rights is recognized. The nursing home does not forfeit its right to extend its conversion rights under this section if the department does not respond within this time frame, nor does the nursing home obtain rights that it otherwise would not have under

applicable statutes or rules if the department does not respond within the time frame.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.38 RCW. WSR 96-24-052, § 246-310-580, filed 11/27/96, effective 12/28/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 43.70.040. WSR 91-02-049 (Order 121), recodified as § 246-310-580, filed 12/27/90, effective 1/31/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.38.135. WSR 86-06-030 (Order 2344), § 248-19-460, filed 2/28/86. Statutory Authority: Chapter 70.38 RCW. WSR 79-12-079 (Order 188), § 248-19-460, filed 11/30/79.]