

**WAC 284-43-5020 Recognizing the exercise of conscience by purchasers of basic health plan services and ensuring access for all enrollees to such services.**

(1) All carriers required pursuant to law to offer and file with the commissioner a plan providing benefits identical to the basic health plan services (the model plan) shall file for such plan a full description of the process it will use to recognize an organization or individual's exercise of conscience based on a religious belief or conscientious objection to the purchase of coverage for a specific service. This process may not affect a nonobjecting enrollee's access to coverage for those services.

(2) A religiously sponsored carrier who elects, for reasons of religious belief, not to participate in the provision of certain services otherwise included in the model plan, shall file for such plan a description of the process by which enrollees will have timely access to all services in the model plan.

(3) The commissioner will not disapprove processes that meet the following criteria:

(a) Enrollee access to all basic health plan services is not impaired in any way;

(b) The process meets notification requirements specified in RCW 48.43.065; and

(c) The process relies on sound actuarial principles to distribute risk.

[WSR 16-01-081, recodified as § 284-43-5020, filed 12/14/15, effective 12/14/15. Statutory Authority: RCW 48.02.060, 48.20.450, 48.20.460, 48.30.010, 48.44.020, 48.44.050, 48.44.080, 48.46.030, 48.46.060(2), 48.46.200 and 48.46.243. WSR 98-04-005 (Matter No. R 97-3), § 284-43-800, filed 1/22/98, effective 2/22/98.]