

**WAC 246-341-0310 Agency licensure and certification—Deeming.**

(1) The department shall deem an agency or branch site as meeting state minimum standards for licensing and certification described in this chapter as a result of accreditation by a national accreditation organization that is recognized by and has a current agreement with the department.

(2) To implement deemed status when opening a new main site agency, adding a new type of certification or behavioral health service to a main site agency, or adding a new type of certification or behavioral health service to a branch site location that is not currently offered at the main site agency, an agency must:

(a) Submit proof of accreditation for the services provided by the agency to the department; and

(b) Complete a department initial on-site review.

(3) To implement deemed status when opening a new branch site location that is providing the same services as a deemed main site agency, or a certification or behavioral health service is being added to a branch site location that is a deemed service at a main site location, an agency must submit proof of accreditation for the services provided by the agency to the department.

(4) The department will not conduct an on-site review as part of the deeming process for tribal behavioral health agencies who seek licensure pursuant to WAC 246-341-0310.

(5) Deeming will be in accordance with the established written agreement between the national accreditation organization and the department.

(6) Specific licensing and certification requirements of any:

(a) State rule may only be waived through a deeming process consistent with the established written agreement between the recognized behavioral health accrediting body and the department.

(b) State or federal statute or regulation will not be waived through a deeming process.

(7) A deemed main site agency or branch site must submit to the department a copy of any relevant reports such as audits, findings, or documentation related to accreditation status.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 71.24.037, 71.05.560, 71.34.380, 18.205.160, 43.70.080(5), 41.05.750, 43.70.250, 74.09.520, and chapters 71.05, 71.12, 71.24, and 71.34 RCW. WSR 22-24-091, § 246-341-0310, filed 12/6/22, effective 5/1/23. Statutory Authority: RCW 71.24.037, 71.05.560, 71.34.380, 18.205.160, 71.24.037 and chapters 71.05, 71.24, and 71.34 RCW. WSR 21-12-042, § 246-341-0310, filed 5/25/21, effective 7/1/21. Statutory Authority: 2018 c 201 and 2018 c 291. WSR 19-09-062, § 246-341-0310, filed 4/16/19, effective 5/17/19.]