

WSR 24-14-126

EXPEDITED RULES

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[Filed July 2, 2024, 1:23 p.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Nursing fee rule housekeeping correction to totals. The department of health (department), in consultation with the Washington state board of nursing (board), is proposing amendments to WAC 246-840-990 to make a housekeeping change to correct fee total amounts.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: In January 2024, the department, in consultation with the board, adopted amendments to WAC 246-840-990. These amendments were introduced to establish the multistate nursing license fee and increase the nursing center surcharge fee as directed by SSB 5499 (chapter 123, Laws of 2023). The nursing center surcharge fee increased from five to eight dollars per year for all initial licenses and renewal licenses for registered nurses (RN) and licensed practical nurses (LPN).

It was discovered that the fee totals for retired active and inactive licenses in WAC 246-840-990 were incorrect and did not include the increased surcharge fee. The department, in consultation with the board, is proposing further amendments to WAC 246-840-990 to correct these amounts and ensure the fee totals accurately reflect the updated surcharge fee. There is no change to the actual fees being charged; this correction only impacts a math error in the total lines.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: The proposed amendments ensure accuracy in the nurse license fee structure. By correcting the fee totals for retired active and inactive RN and LPN licenses to include the increased nursing center surcharge, the department and board are aligning the nurse license fees with legislative directives established by SSB 5499. The proposed amendments will avoid confusion regarding the correct fee amounts, promoting transparency and clarity in the board's licensing process.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.70.110, 43.70.250, and 43.70.280.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 18.79.202.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Department of health, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Jessilyn Dagum, 111 Israel Road S.E., Tumwater, WA 98501, 360-236-3538; Implementation: Amber Zawislak-Bielaski, 111 Israel Road S.E., Tumwater, WA 98501, 360-236-4785; and Enforcement: Catherine Woodard, 111 Israel Road S.E., Tumwater, WA 98501, 360-236-4757.

This notice meets the following criteria to use the expedited adoption process for these rules:

Corrects typographical errors, makes address or name changes, or clarifies language of a rule without changing its effect.

Explanation of the Reason the Agency Believes the Expedited Rule-Making Process is Appropriate: This expedited proposal is in accordance with RCW 34.05.533 (1)(c) and corrects typographical totaling errors in WAC 246-840-990.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEAR-

INGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Jessilyn Dagum, Department of Health, Washington State Board of Nursing, P.O. Box 47864, Olympia, WA 98504-7866, phone 360-236-3538, fax 360-236-4738, email WABONRules@doh.wa.gov, HSQAFeeRules@doh.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY midnight on September 3, 2024.

July 2, 2024
Todd Mountin, PMP
Deputy Chief of Policy
for Umair A. Shah, MD, MPH
Secretary

OTS-5474.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 24-02-057, filed 12/28/23, effective 1/31/24)

WAC 246-840-990 Fees and renewal cycle. (1) A licensed practical nurse (LPN) or a registered nurse (RN) must renew their single or multistate license every year on the licensee's birthday.

(2) When applying for a license an applicant for an initial or renewal LPN license or RN license must pay, in addition to the application fee, the University of Washington (UW) health sciences online library access (HEAL-WA) surcharge and the central nursing resource center (nursing center) surcharge, as required in RCW 43.70.110.

(3) An advanced registered nurse practitioner (ARNP) must renew their license every two years on the licensee's birthday. An ARNP must also hold a valid single or multistate RN license and pay all associated fees every year on the licensee's birthday.

(4) A nursing technician must renew their registration every year on the practitioner's birthday. The renewal must be accompanied by an attestation as required in RCW 18.79.370 that includes the nursing technician's anticipated graduation date. If the anticipated graduation date is within one year, the registration will expire 30 days after the anticipated graduation date. The expiration date may be extended to 60 days after graduation if the nursing technician can show good cause as defined in WAC 246-840-010(15).

(5) A practitioner who holds more than one credential will be charged separate fees for each credential, in compliance with WAC 246-12-020 through 246-12-051 and RCW 43.70.110.

(6) The following nonrefundable fees will be charged:

Application Fees

	Registered Nurse	Multistate Registered Nurse ²	Licensed Practical Nurse	Multistate Licensed Practical Nurse ²	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner ¹	Nursing Technician
Application Fee	114	114	69	69	130	25

Application Fees

	Registered Nurse	Multistate Registered Nurse ²	Licensed Practical Nurse	Multistate Licensed Practical Nurse ²	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner ¹	Nursing Technician
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	16	16	0	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	8	8	8	8	0	0
Multistate License Fee	0	65	0	65	0	0
Total	138	203	93	158	130	25

¹Pays a \$130 application fee per specialty license. If not currently a licensed RN, must also pay RN application fees.

² Providers currently licensed in Washington state pay the \$65 multistate license fee to convert their existing license to a multistate license.

On-Time Renewal

	Registered Nurse	Multistate Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Multistate Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner ²	Nursing Technician
Renewal Fee	114	114	69	69	130	25
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	16	16	0	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	8	8	8	8	0	0
Multistate License Fee	0	20	0	20	0	0
Total	138	158	93	113	130	25

²Pays a \$130 renewal fee per specialty license once every two years. Must also renew RN license every year.

Late Renewal - Up to One Year Past the Expiration

	Registered Nurse	Multistate Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Multistate Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner ³	Nursing Technician
Renewal Fee	114	114	69	69	130	25
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	16	16	0	0
Nursing Center Surcharge	8	8	8	8	0	0
Late Renewal Penalty	50	50	50	50	50	25
Multistate License Fee	0	20	0	20	0	0
Total	188	208	143	163	180	50

³Pays \$50 per specialty license in late fees.

Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired

	Registered Nurse	Multistate Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Multistate Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	
Renewal Fee	114	114	69	69	130	

Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired

	Registered Nurse	Multistate Registered Nurse	Licensed Practical Nurse	Multistate Licensed Practical Nurse	Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16	16	16	16	0	
Nursing Center Surcharge	8	8	8	8	0	
Late Renewal Penalty	50	50	50	50	50	
Expired Licenses Reissuance	70	70	70	70	0	
Multistate License Fee	0	20	0	20	0	
Total	258	278	213	233	180	

Retired Active Renewal

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse			
Renewal Fee	44		44			
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16		16			
Nursing Center Surcharge	8		8			
Total	((65)) 68		((65)) 68			

Retired Active Renewal—Late Renewal - Up to One Year Past the Expiration

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse			
Renewal Fee	44		44			
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16		16			
Nursing Center Surcharge	8		8			
Late Renewal Penalty	45		45			
Total	((110)) 113		((110)) 113			

Retired Active Renewal—Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse			
Renewal Fee	44		44			
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16		16			
Nursing Center Surcharge	8		8			
Late Renewal Penalty	45		45			
Expired License Reissuance	70		70			

Retired Active Renewal—Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse			
Total	((180)) 183		((180)) 183			

Inactive License Renewal

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse		Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	
Renewal Fee	44		44		40	
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16		16		0	
Nursing Center Surcharge	8		8		0	
Total	((65)) 68		((65)) 68		40	

Inactive License Renewal—Late Renewal - Up to One Year Past the Expiration

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse		Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	
Renewal Fee	44		44		40	
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16		16		0	
Nursing Center Surcharge	8		8		0	
Late Renewal Penalty	45		45		40	
Total	((110)) 113		((110)) 113		80	

Inactive License Renewal—Late Renewal - One Year or More Expired

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse		Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	
Renewal Fee	44		44		40	
HEAL-WA Surcharge	16		16		0	
Nursing Center Surcharge	8		8		0	
Late Renewal Penalty	45		45		40	
Expired License Reissuance	40		40		40	
Total	((150)) 153		((150)) 153		120	

Other fees

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse		Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	Nursing Technician
Duplicate License or Registration	20		20		20	15

Other fees

	Registered Nurse		Licensed Practical Nurse		Advanced Registered Nurse Practitioner	Nursing Technician
Verification Licensure	25		25		25	25