

RCW 48.37.120 Dispute resolution—Rules. (1) At any point in the market analysis, the insurer may request a review and resolution of issues by identifying the issues either orally or in writing to the market conduct oversight manager, or deputy insurance commissioner responsible for market conduct oversight. At each level, a response to the insurer shall be provided within five business days.

(2) At any point in the market conduct examination, the insurer may request a review and resolution of issues either orally or in writing to the market conduct oversight manager, or deputy insurance commissioner responsible for market conduct oversight. At each level, a response to the insurer shall be provided within five business days. This authorization for dispute resolution shall be secondary to the specific procedures set forth in RCW 48.37.060.

(3) After the deputy insurance commissioner responsible for market conduct oversight has responded to an insurer's issues, the insurer may request mediation of the issues. The insurance commissioner shall adopt by rule a process to govern mediation of insurer market conduct oversight issues. That rule shall:

(a) Provide for the selection by the commissioner of a panel of preapproved mediators;

(b) Require that insurers, upon notice of the start of a market analysis process or the start of a market conduct examination, identify from the preapproved list a mediator and an alternative mediator;

(c) Require the party requesting mediation to pay the costs of the mediator; and

(d) Provide for other rule provisions as are reasonably necessary for the efficient operation of a mediation process.

(4) At any point in the dispute resolution process contained in this section, the insurer may commence an adjudicative proceeding under chapters 48.04 and 34.05 RCW. [2007 c 82 s 14.]