

# Chapter 296-63 WAC

## RIGHT TO KNOW FEE ASSESSMENT

### WAC

296-63-001	Purpose and scope.
296-63-003	Definitions.
296-63-005	Selected industries.
296-63-007	Fee assessment.
296-63-009	Exemption requests.
296-63-011	Fraudulent exemption requests.
296-63-013	Appeals.
296-63-015	Fee assessment not received.

**WAC 296-63-001 Purpose and scope.** This chapter establishes a fee assessment under the Worker and Community Right to Know Act in accordance with RCW 49.70.170.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-001, filed 11/6/86.]

**WAC 296-63-003 Definitions.** Unless the context clearly requires otherwise, the definitions of this section shall apply throughout this chapter.

(1) "Department" means the department of labor and industries.

(2) "Director" means the director of the department of labor and industries or his/her designee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-003, filed 11/6/86.]

**WAC 296-63-005 Selected industries.** Fees shall only be assessed to employers engaged in business operations in the following industries, as classified by the current industry classification system used by the bureau of labor statistics:

- (1) Agriculture and forestry industries.
- (2) Mining, quarrying, and oil and gas extraction.
- (3) Construction industries.
- (4) Manufacturing industries.
- (5) Transportation, pipeline, communications, electric, gas, and sanitary services.
- (6) Automotive repair, services, and garages.
- (7) Miscellaneous repair services.
- (8) Health services.
- (9) Educational services.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 49.17 and 49.70 RCW and 2016 c 168. WSR 16-13-120, § 296-63-005, filed 6/21/16, effective 7/22/16. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-005, filed 11/6/86.]

**WAC 296-63-007 Fee assessment.** (1) The department shall assess an annual fee to each employer in the selected industries identified in WAC 296-63-003.

(2) The fee shall only be assessed to employers who reported ten thousand four hundred or more worker hours to the department.

(3) The fee assessment shall be based on reported worker hours for the prior calendar year.

(4) One full-time equivalent employee is equal to two thousand eighty worker hours.

(6/21/16)

(5) The fee assessment shall be two dollars and fifty cents for each full-time equivalent employee. Any fraction of a full-time equivalent employee shall be counted as one full-time equivalent employee.

(6) The annual fee shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars for an individual employer.

(7) All fees collected by the department shall be deposited in the worker and community right to know fund.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-007, filed 11/6/86.]

**WAC 296-63-009 Exemption requests.** (1) Employers who do not have hazardous chemicals at their workplace may submit a written request for exemption to the department. Submission of an exemption request does not relieve an employer of his/her obligation to pay the fee assessment until such time as the request is approved. Employers granted exemptions will be removed from the listing of employers to be assessed a fee beginning with the current billing period.

(2) Exemptions shall only be considered for an employer's entire workplace consisting of all activities reported to the department under the same employer identification number.

(3) Each request for exemption must contain the following information:

- (a) Firm name and employer identification number;
- (b) Complete mailing address;
- (c) Complete location (such as street) address;
- (d) A certified statement in the form required by RCW 9A.72.085 that a hazardous chemical survey of the employer's premises has been completed by a qualified person, the identity and qualifications of the person completing the survey, and that no hazardous chemicals as defined by WAC 296-901-140 are present at the workplace.

(4) The department may schedule an on-site inspection to determine the validity of the exemption request.

(5) The employer shall provide to the department within five working days of receiving a request from the department, any additional information identified by the department as necessary for evaluating the exemption request.

(6) Exemption requests shall be mailed to:

Right to Know Program  
Department of Labor and Industries  
P.O. Box 44620  
Olympia, Washington 98504-4620

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, 49.17.040, 49.17.050, 49.17.060 and 29 C.F.R. 1910 Subpart Z. WSR 14-07-086, § 296-63-009, filed 3/18/14, effective 5/1/14. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.010, [49.17].040, and [49.17].050. WSR 01-11-038, § 296-63-009, filed 5/9/01, effective 9/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.70.170 and 49.17.040. WSR 98-02-029, § 296-63-009, filed 12/31/97, effective 1/31/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-009, filed 11/6/86.]

[Ch. 296-63 WAC p. 1]

**WAC 296-63-011 Fraudulent exemption requests.**

(1) The department may assess a civil penalty against any employer who submits a fraudulent exemption request. Such penalty assessment shall be consistent with RCW 49.17.180 (1), and shall not exceed seventy thousand dollars.

(2) In addition, the director may cause a record of such fraudulent exemptions submission to be referred to the prosecuting attorney of the county wherein such submission occurred.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter 49.17 RCW. WSR 91-24-017 (Order 91-07), § 296-63-011, filed 11/22/91, effective 12/24/91. Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-011, filed 11/6/86.]

**WAC 296-63-013 Appeals.** An employer may appeal the fee assessment or penalties in accordance with RCW 49.70.170(4).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-013, filed 11/6/86.]

**WAC 296-63-015 Fee assessment not received.** When fee assessments are not received by the department, penalties shall be assessed to the delinquent employer in accordance with chapter 49.70 RCW and RCW 49.70.177.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 49.17.040 and 49.17.050. WSR 86-23-003 (Order 86-38), § 296-63-015, filed 11/6/86.]