

WAC 246-240-210 Training for use of unsealed radioactive material for which a written directive is required. Except as provided in WAC 246-240-078, the licensee shall require an authorized user of unsealed radioactive material for the uses authorized under WAC 246-240-201 to be a physician who:

(1) Is certified by a medical specialty board whose certification process has been recognized by the department, NRC, or an agreement state and who meets the requirements in subsection (2)(a)(ii)(G) of this section. The names of board certifications that have been recognized by the department, NRC, or an agreement state are posted on the NRC's medical uses licensee toolkit web page. To have its certification process recognized, a specialty board shall require all candidates for certification to:

(a) Successfully complete a residency training in a radiation therapy or nuclear medicine training program or a program in a related medical specialty that includes 700 hours of training and experience as described in subsection (2)(a)(i) through (ii)(E) of this section. Eligible training programs must be approved by the Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the Committee on Postgraduate Training of the American Osteopathic Association; and

(b) Pass an examination, administered by diplomates of the specialty board, which tests knowledge and competence in radiation safety, radionuclide handling, quality assurance, and clinical use of unsealed radioactive material for which a written directive is required; or

(2)(a) Has completed 700 hours of training and experience, including a minimum of 200 hours of classroom and laboratory training, in basic radionuclide handling techniques applicable to the medical use of unsealed radioactive material requiring a written directive. The training and experience must include:

(i) Classroom and laboratory training in the following areas:

(A) Radiation physics and instrumentation;

(B) Radiation protection;

(C) Mathematics pertaining to the use and measurement of radioactivity;

(D) Chemistry of radioactive material for medical use; and

(E) Radiation biology; and

(ii) Work experience, under the supervision of an authorized user who meets the requirements in WAC 246-240-078, or this section, or equivalent NRC or agreement state requirements. A supervising authorized user, who meets the requirements in this subsection, must also have experience in administering dosages in the same dosage category or categories (as in (a)(ii)(G) of this subsection) as the individual requesting authorized user status. The work experience must involve:

(A) Ordering, receiving, and unpacking radioactive materials safely and performing the related radiation surveys;

(B) Performing quality control procedures on instruments used to determine the activity of dosages and performing checks for proper operation of survey meters;

(C) Calculating, measuring, and safely preparing patient or human research subject dosages;

(D) Using administrative controls to prevent a medical event involving the use of unsealed radioactive material;

(E) Using procedures to contain spilled radioactive material safely and using proper decontamination procedures;

(F) (Reserved);

(G) Administering dosages of radioactive drugs to patients or human research subjects from the three categories in this subsection. Radioactive drugs containing radionuclides in categories not included in this subsection are regulated under WAC 246-240-501. This work experience must involve a minimum of three cases in each of the following categories for which the individual is requesting authorized user status:

(I) Oral administration of less than or equal to 1.22 gigabecquerels (33 millicuries) of sodium iodide I-131 for which a written directive is required;

(II) Oral administration of greater than 1.22 gigabecquerels (33 millicuries) of sodium iodide I-131. Experience with at least three cases in this also satisfies the requirement in (a)(ii)(G)(I) of this subsection;

(III) Parenteral administration of any radioactive drug that contains a radionuclide that is primarily used for its electron emission, beta radiation characteristics, alpha radiation characteristics, or photon energy less than 150 keV for which a written directive is required; and

(b) Has obtained written attestation that the individual has satisfactorily completed the requirements in (a) of this subsection, and is able to independently fulfill at radiation safety-related duties as an authorized user for the medical uses authorized under WAC 246-240-201 for which the individual is requesting authorized user status. The written attestation must be obtained from either:

(i) A preceptor authorized user who meets the requirements in this section, WAC 246-240-078, 246-240-210, or equivalent NRC or agreement state requirements, and has experience in administering dosages in the same dosage category or categories (as in (a)(ii)(G) of this subsection) as the individual requesting authorized user status; or

(ii) A residency program director who affirms in writing that the attestation represents the consensus of the residency program faculty where at least one faculty member is an authorized user who meets the requirements in WAC 246-240-078, 246-240-210, or equivalent NRC or agreement state requirements, has experience in administering dosages in the same dosage category or categories as the individual requesting authorized user status, and concurs with the attestation provided by the residency program director. The residency training program must be approved by the Residency Review Committee of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education or the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada or the Council on Postdoctoral Training of the American Osteopathic Association and must include training and experience specified in (a) of this subsection.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 70A.388.040 and 70A.388.110. WSR 22-19-084, § 246-240-210, filed 9/20/22, effective 10/21/22. Statutory Authority: RCW 70.98.050. WSR 14-09-017, § 246-240-210, filed 4/7/14, effective 5/8/14; WSR 13-11-021, § 246-240-210, filed 5/7/13, effective 6/7/13; WSR 11-03-068, § 246-240-210, filed 1/18/11, effective 2/18/11; WSR 07-14-131, § 246-240-210, filed 7/3/07, effective 8/3/07; WSR 06-05-019, § 246-240-210, filed 2/6/06, effective 3/9/06.]