

health equity CE must be completed as part of the current CE requirements every four years. The proposed rule does not change total CE hours but requires two hours in health equity CE every four years which is absorbed into the existing number of CE hours required. The health equity CE requirement is counted under existing, unspecified CE requirements for the profession.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: The goal of health equity CE is to equip health care workers with the skills to recognize and reduce health inequities in their daily work. The content of health equity trainings include implicit bias trainings to identify strategies to reduce bias during assessment and diagnosis in an effort to address structural factors, such as bias, racism, and poverty, that manifests as health inequities.

Health equity CE training allows individuals to gain a foundation in health equity that can have an immediate positive impact on the professional's interaction with those receiving care. Health equity training enables health care professionals to care effectively for patients from diverse cultures, groups and communities, varying race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexuality, religion, age, ability, socioeconomic status, and other categories of identity. The health equity CE credits may be earned as part of the health professional's existing CE requirements, therefore not requiring completion of additional CE hours.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 43.70.613, 18.64.005, and 18.64A.020.

Statute Being Implemented: ESSB 5229 (chapter 276, Laws of 2021), codified as RCW 43.70.613.

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

Name of Proponent: Pharmacy quality assurance commission, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting and Implementation: 111 Israel Road S.E., Tumwater, WA 98501, 360-502-5058; and Enforcement: Marlee O'Neill, 111 Israel Road S.E., Tumwater, WA 98501, 360-480-9108.

A school district fiscal impact statement is not required under RCW 28A.305.135.

A cost-benefit analysis is required under RCW 34.05.328. A preliminary cost-benefit analysis may be obtained by contacting Joshua Munroe, P.O. Box 47852, Olympia, WA 98504-7852, phone 360-502-5058, fax 360-236-2901, TTY 711, email PharmacyRules@doh.wa.gov.

This rule proposal, or portions of the proposal, is exempt from requirements of the Regulatory Fairness Act because the proposal:

Is exempt under RCW 19.85.025(4).

Scope of exemption for rule proposal:

Is fully exempt.

July 27, 2023

Ken Kenyon, PharmD, MBA, Chair
Pharmacy Quality Assurance Commission

OTS-4710.1

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 21-04-145, filed 2/3/21, effective 12/1/21)

WAC 246-945-178 Pharmacist continuing education. (1) As part of the process to renew a pharmacist license, a pharmacist shall complete ((CPE)) continuing education in compliance with this section.

(2) A pharmacist shall complete the equivalent of ~~((3.0 of CPE hours (equal to thirty contact hours) administered by an ACPE accredited provider each license renewal cycle))~~ 30 hours of continuing education each license renewal cycle. The 30 hours of continuing education must be delivered by a continuing education provider accredited by ACPE, except as provided for in subsections (4) and (5) of this section.

(3) A pharmacist shall register with a program designated by the commission for tracking completed CPE hours.

(4) A pharmacist shall complete a one-time training in suicide screening and referral by the end of the first full renewal cycle after initial licensure. The training must meet the following requirements:

(a) Be at least three hours long;

(b) Be from the ~~((department of health's))~~ department's model list of approved suicide prevention training programs, and include content related to imminent harm via lethal means; and

(c) The hours spent completing the training in this subsection may count toward meeting CPE requirements.

(5) ~~((CPE))~~ A pharmacist shall complete at least one hour of health equity training as described in WAC 246-12-830 each license renewal cycle.

(a) Health equity training may be provided by a continuing education provider accredited by ACPE or by a health equity training program contained on the department's list of approved health equity training programs.

(b) The hours spent completing health equity training will count toward meeting continuing education requirements.

(6) Continuing education hours cannot be carried over to the next renewal cycle.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.64.005 and 18.64A.020. WSR 21-04-145, § 246-945-178, filed 2/3/21, effective 12/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.64.005, 18.64.080, 18.130.075, 18.64.043, 18.64.044, 18.64.045, 18.64.046, 18.64.370, 18.64.460, 69.50.310, 18.64.011, 18.64.245, 18.64.470, 18.64.255, 18.64.205, 18.64.253, 18.64.410, 18.64.500, 18.64.590. WSR 20-12-072, § 246-945-178, filed 6/1/20, effective 3/1/21.]

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 21-04-145, filed 2/3/21, effective 12/1/21)

WAC 246-945-220 Pharmacy technician—Continuing education. (1) As part of the process to renew a pharmacy technician license, a pharmacy technician shall complete continuing ~~((pharmacy))~~ education ~~((CPE))~~ in compliance with this section.

(2) A pharmacy technician shall complete ~~((2.0 CPE))~~ 20 hours ~~((equal to twenty contact hours) administered by an ACPE accredited program each certification renewal period.~~

~~(3))~~ of continuing education each certification renewal cycle. The 20 hours of continuing education must be presented by a continuing education provider accredited by ACPE, except as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

(3) A pharmacy technician shall complete at least one hour of health equity training as described in WAC 246-12-830 each certification renewal period.

(a) Health equity training may be provided by a continuing education provider accredited by ACPE or by a health equity training program contained on the department's list of approved health equity training programs.

(b) The hours spent completing health equity training will count toward meeting continuing education requirements.

(4) A pharmacy technician shall register with a program designated by the commission for tracking completed CPE hours.

~~((4) CPE))~~ (5) Continuing education hours cannot be carried over to the next renewal cycle.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.64.005 and 18.64A.020. WSR 21-04-145, § 246-945-220, filed 2/3/21, effective 12/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.64.005, 18.64.080, 18.130.075, 18.64.043, 18.64.044, 18.64.045, 18.64.046, 18.64.370, 18.64.460, 69.50.310, 18.64.011, 18.64.245, 18.64.470, 18.64.255, 18.64.205, 18.64.253, 18.64.410, 18.64.500, 18.64.590. WSR 20-12-072, § 246-945-220, filed 6/1/20, effective 3/1/21.]