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**SENATE BILL 5940**

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**State of Washington**

**68th Legislature**

**2024 Regular Session**

**By** Senators Van De Wege, Hasegawa, Keiser, Lovick, Muzzall, and Wagoner

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1 AN ACT Relating to creating a medical assistant-EMT  
2 certification; amending RCW 18.360.010, 18.360.020, 18.360.030,  
3 18.360.040, and 18.360.050; and reenacting and amending RCW  
4 18.120.020 and 18.130.040.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

6 **Sec. 1.** RCW 18.360.010 and 2023 c 134 s 1 are each amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
9 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

10 (1) "Administer" means the retrieval of medication, and its  
11 application to a patient, as authorized in RCW 18.360.050.

12 (2) "Delegation" means direct authorization granted by a licensed  
13 health care practitioner to a medical assistant to perform the  
14 functions authorized in this chapter which fall within the scope of  
15 practice of the health care provider and the training and experience  
16 of the medical assistant.

17 (3) "Department" means the department of health.

18 (4) "Forensic phlebotomist" means a police officer, law  
19 enforcement officer, or employee of a correctional facility or  
20 detention facility, who is certified under this chapter and meets any  
21 additional training and proficiency standards of his or her employer

1 to collect a venous blood sample for forensic testing pursuant to a  
2 search warrant, a waiver of the warrant requirement, or exigent  
3 circumstances.

4 (5) "Health care practitioner" means:

5 (a) A physician licensed under chapter 18.71 RCW;

6 (b) An osteopathic physician and surgeon licensed under chapter  
7 18.57 RCW; or

8 (c) Acting within the scope of their respective licensure, a  
9 podiatric physician and surgeon licensed under chapter 18.22 RCW, a  
10 registered nurse or advanced registered nurse practitioner licensed  
11 under chapter 18.79 RCW, a naturopath licensed under chapter 18.36A  
12 RCW, a physician assistant licensed under chapter 18.71A RCW, or an  
13 optometrist licensed under chapter 18.53 RCW.

14 (6) "Medical assistant-certified" means a person certified under  
15 RCW 18.360.040 who assists a health care practitioner with patient  
16 care, executes administrative and clinical procedures, and performs  
17 functions as provided in RCW 18.360.050 under the supervision of the  
18 health care practitioner.

19 (7) "Medical assistant-EMT" means a person registered under RCW  
20 18.360.040 who also holds either an emergency medical technician  
21 certification under RCW 18.73.081 or a paramedic certification under  
22 RCW 18.71.205, and who performs functions as provided in RCW  
23 18.360.050 under the supervision of a health care practitioner.

24 (8) "Medical assistant-hemodialysis technician" means a person  
25 certified under RCW 18.360.040 who performs hemodialysis and other  
26 functions pursuant to RCW 18.360.050 under the supervision of a  
27 health care practitioner.

28 ~~((8))~~ (9) "Medical assistant-phlebotomist" means a person  
29 certified under RCW 18.360.040 who performs capillary, venous, and  
30 arterial invasive procedures for blood withdrawal and other functions  
31 pursuant to RCW 18.360.050 under the supervision of a health care  
32 practitioner.

33 ~~((9))~~ (10) "Medical assistant-registered" means a person  
34 registered under RCW 18.360.040 who, pursuant to an endorsement by a  
35 health care practitioner, clinic, or group practice, assists a health  
36 care practitioner with patient care, executes administrative and  
37 clinical procedures, and performs functions as provided in RCW  
38 18.360.050 under the supervision of the health care practitioner.

39 ~~((10))~~ (11) "Secretary" means the secretary of the department  
40 of health.

1       (~~(11)~~) (12)(a) "Supervision" means supervision of procedures  
2 permitted pursuant to this chapter by a health care practitioner who  
3 is physically present and is immediately available in the facility,  
4 except as provided in (b) and (c) of this subsection.

5       (b) The health care practitioner does not need to be present  
6 during procedures to withdraw blood, administer vaccines, or obtain  
7 specimens for or perform diagnostic testing, but must be immediately  
8 available.

9       (c) During a telemedicine visit, supervision over a medical  
10 assistant assisting a health care practitioner with the telemedicine  
11 visit may be provided through interactive audio and video  
12 telemedicine technology.

13       **Sec. 2.** RCW 18.360.020 and 2017 c 336 s 15 are each amended to  
14 read as follows:

15       (1) No person may practice as a medical assistant-certified,  
16 medical assistant-hemodialysis technician, medical assistant-  
17 phlebotomist, medical assistant-EMT, or forensic phlebotomist unless  
18 he or she is certified under RCW 18.360.040.

19       (2) No person may practice as a medical assistant-registered  
20 unless he or she is registered under RCW 18.360.040.

21       **Sec. 3.** RCW 18.360.030 and 2019 c 55 s 8 are each amended to  
22 read as follows:

23       (1) The secretary shall adopt rules specifying the minimum  
24 qualifications for a medical assistant-certified, medical assistant-  
25 hemodialysis technician, medical assistant-phlebotomist, medical  
26 assistant-EMT, and forensic phlebotomist.

27       (a) The qualifications for a medical assistant-hemodialysis  
28 technician must be equivalent to the qualifications for hemodialysis  
29 technicians regulated pursuant to chapter 18.135 RCW as of January 1,  
30 2012.

31       (b) The qualifications for a forensic phlebotomist must include  
32 training consistent with the occupational safety and health  
33 administration guidelines and must include between twenty and thirty  
34 hours of work in a clinical setting with the completion of more than  
35 one hundred successful venipunctures. The secretary may not require  
36 more than (~~forty~~) 40 hours of classroom training for initial  
37 training, which may include online preclass homework.

1       (c) The qualifications for a medical assistant-EMT must be  
2 consistent with the qualifications for the emergency medical  
3 technician certification pursuant to RCW 18.73.081 or the paramedic  
4 certification pursuant to RCW 18.71.205. The secretary must ensure  
5 that any person with an emergency medical technician or paramedic  
6 certification is eligible for a medical assistant-EMT certification  
7 with no additional training or examination requirements if the  
8 certification for the emergency medical technician or a paramedic is  
9 in good standing.

10       (2) The secretary shall adopt rules that establish the minimum  
11 requirements necessary for a health care practitioner, clinic, or  
12 group practice to endorse a medical assistant as qualified to perform  
13 the duties authorized by this chapter and be able to file an  
14 attestation of that endorsement with the department.

15       ~~((3) The Washington medical commission, the board of osteopathic~~  
16 ~~medicine and surgery, the podiatric medical board, the nursing care~~  
17 ~~quality assurance commission, the board of naturopathy, and the~~  
18 ~~optometry board shall each review and identify other specialty~~  
19 ~~assistive personnel not included in this chapter and the tasks they~~  
20 ~~perform. The department of health shall compile the information from~~  
21 ~~each disciplining authority listed in this subsection and submit the~~  
22 ~~compiled information to the legislature no later than December 15,~~  
23 ~~2012.))~~

24       **Sec. 4.** RCW 18.360.040 and 2023 c 134 s 2 are each amended to  
25 read as follows:

26       (1)(a) The secretary shall issue a certification as a medical  
27 assistant-certified to any person who has satisfactorily completed a  
28 medical assistant training program approved by the secretary, passed  
29 an examination approved by the secretary, and met any additional  
30 qualifications established under RCW 18.360.030.

31       (b) The secretary shall issue an interim certification to any  
32 person who has met all of the qualifications in (a) of this  
33 subsection, except for the passage of the examination. A person  
34 holding an interim permit possesses the full scope of practice of a  
35 medical assistant-certified. The interim permit expires upon passage  
36 of the examination and issuance of a certification, or after one  
37 year, whichever occurs first, and may not be renewed.

38       (2)(a) The secretary shall issue a certification as a medical  
39 assistant-hemodialysis technician to any person who meets the

1 qualifications for a medical assistant-hemodialysis technician  
2 established under RCW 18.360.030.

3 (b) In order to allow sufficient time for the processing of a  
4 medical assistant-hemodialysis technician certification, applicants  
5 for that credential who have completed their training program are  
6 allowed to continue to work at dialysis facilities, under the level  
7 of supervision required for the training program, for a period of up  
8 to 180 days after filing their application, to facilitate patient  
9 continuity of care.

10 (3) (a) The secretary shall issue a certification as a medical  
11 assistant-phlebotomist to any person who meets the qualifications for  
12 a medical assistant-phlebotomist established under RCW 18.360.030.

13 (b) In order to allow sufficient time for the processing of a  
14 medical assistant-phlebotomist certification, applicants for that  
15 credential who have completed their training program are allowed to  
16 work, under the level of supervision required for the training  
17 program, for a period of up to 180 days after filing their  
18 application, to facilitate access to services.

19 (4) The secretary shall issue a certification as a medical  
20 assistant-EMT to any person who meets the qualifications for a  
21 medical assistant-EMT established under RCW 18.360.030.

22 (5) The secretary shall issue a certification as a forensic  
23 phlebotomist to any person who meets the qualifications for a  
24 forensic phlebotomist established under RCW 18.360.030.

25 ~~((+5))~~ (6) (a) The secretary shall issue a registration as a  
26 medical assistant-registered to any person who has a current  
27 endorsement from a health care practitioner, clinic, or group  
28 practice.

29 (b) In order to be endorsed under this subsection ~~((+5))~~ (6), a  
30 person must:

31 (i) Be endorsed by a health care practitioner, clinic, or group  
32 practice that meets the qualifications established under RCW  
33 18.360.030; and

34 (ii) Have a current attestation of his or her endorsement to  
35 perform specific medical tasks signed by a supervising health care  
36 practitioner filed with the department. A medical assistant-  
37 registered may only perform the medical tasks listed in his or her  
38 current attestation of endorsement.

1 (c) A registration based on an endorsement by a health care  
2 practitioner, clinic, or group practice is not transferable to  
3 another health care practitioner, clinic, or group practice.

4 (d) An applicant for registration as a medical assistant-  
5 registered who applies to the department within seven days of  
6 employment by the endorsing health care practitioner, clinic, or  
7 group practice may work as a medical assistant-registered for up to  
8 sixty days while the application is processed. The applicant must  
9 stop working on the sixtieth day of employment if the registration  
10 has not been granted for any reason.

11 ~~((+6))~~ (7) A certification issued under subsections (1) through  
12 (3) of this section is transferable between different practice  
13 settings. A certification under subsection (4) of this section is  
14 transferable between hospitals licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW. A  
15 certification under subsection ~~((+4))~~ (5) of this section is  
16 transferable between law enforcement agencies.

17 **Sec. 5.** RCW 18.360.050 and 2023 c 134 s 3 are each amended to  
18 read as follows:

19 (1) A medical assistant-certified may perform the following  
20 duties delegated by, and under the supervision of, a health care  
21 practitioner:

22 (a) Fundamental procedures:

23 (i) Wrapping items for autoclaving;

24 (ii) Procedures for sterilizing equipment and instruments;

25 (iii) Disposing of biohazardous materials; and

26 (iv) Practicing standard precautions.

27 (b) Clinical procedures:

28 (i) Performing aseptic procedures in a setting other than a  
29 hospital licensed under chapter 70.41 RCW;

30 (ii) Preparing of and assisting in sterile procedures in a  
31 setting other than a hospital under chapter 70.41 RCW;

32 (iii) Taking vital signs;

33 (iv) Preparing patients for examination;

34 (v) Capillary blood withdrawal, venipuncture, and intradermal,  
35 subcutaneous, and intramuscular injections; and

36 (vi) Observing and reporting patients' signs or symptoms.

37 (c) Specimen collection:

38 (i) Capillary puncture and venipuncture;

39 (ii) Obtaining specimens for microbiological testing; and

1 (iii) Instructing patients in proper technique to collect urine  
2 and fecal specimens.

3 (d) Diagnostic testing:

4 (i) Electrocardiography;

5 (ii) Respiratory testing; and

6 (iii)(A) Tests waived under the federal clinical laboratory  
7 improvement amendments program on July 1, 2013. The department shall  
8 periodically update the tests authorized under this subsection (1)(d)  
9 based on changes made by the federal clinical laboratory improvement  
10 amendments program; and

11 (B) Moderate complexity tests if the medical assistant-certified  
12 meets standards for personnel qualifications and responsibilities in  
13 compliance with federal regulation for nonwaived testing.

14 (e) Patient care:

15 (i) Telephone and in-person screening limited to intake and  
16 gathering of information without requiring the exercise of judgment  
17 based on clinical knowledge;

18 (ii) Obtaining vital signs;

19 (iii) Obtaining and recording patient history;

20 (iv) Preparing and maintaining examination and treatment areas;

21 (v) Preparing patients for, and assisting with, routine and  
22 specialty examinations, procedures, treatments, and minor office  
23 surgeries;

24 (vi) Maintaining medication and immunization records; and

25 (vii) Screening and following up on test results as directed by a  
26 health care practitioner.

27 (f)(i) Administering medications. A medical assistant-certified  
28 may only administer medications if the drugs are:

29 (A) Administered only by unit or single dosage, or by a dosage  
30 calculated and verified by a health care practitioner. For purposes  
31 of this section, a combination or multidose vaccine shall be  
32 considered a unit dose;

33 (B) Limited to legend drugs, vaccines, and Schedule III-V  
34 controlled substances as authorized by a health care practitioner  
35 under the scope of his or her license and consistent with rules  
36 adopted by the secretary under (f)(ii) of this subsection; and

37 (C) Administered pursuant to a written order from a health care  
38 practitioner.

39 (ii) A medical assistant-certified may not administer  
40 experimental drugs or chemotherapy agents. The secretary may, by

1 rule, further limit the drugs that may be administered under this  
2 subsection (1)(f). The rules adopted under this subsection must limit  
3 the drugs based on risk, class, or route.

4 (g) Intravenous injections. A medical assistant-certified may  
5 establish intravenous lines for diagnostic or therapeutic purposes,  
6 without administering medications, under the supervision of a health  
7 care practitioner, and administer intravenous injections for  
8 diagnostic or therapeutic agents under the direct visual supervision  
9 of a health care practitioner if the medical assistant-certified  
10 meets minimum standards established by the secretary in rule. The  
11 minimum standards must be substantially similar to the qualifications  
12 for category D and F health care assistants as they exist on July 1,  
13 2013.

14 (h) Urethral catheterization when appropriately trained.

15 (2) A medical assistant-hemodialysis technician may perform  
16 hemodialysis when delegated and supervised by a health care  
17 practitioner. A medical assistant-hemodialysis technician may also  
18 administer drugs and oxygen to a patient when delegated and  
19 supervised by a health care practitioner and pursuant to rules  
20 adopted by the secretary.

21 (3) A medical assistant-phlebotomist may perform:

22 (a) Capillary, venous, or arterial invasive procedures for blood  
23 withdrawal when delegated and supervised by a health care  
24 practitioner and pursuant to rules adopted by the secretary;

25 (b) Tests waived under the federal clinical laboratory  
26 improvement amendments program on July 1, 2013. The department shall  
27 periodically update the tests authorized under this section based on  
28 changes made by the federal clinical laboratory improvement  
29 amendments program;

30 (c) Moderate and high complexity tests if the medical assistant-  
31 phlebotomist meets standards for personnel qualifications and  
32 responsibilities in compliance with federal regulation for nonwaived  
33 testing; and

34 (d) Electrocardiograms.

35 (4) A medical assistant-registered may perform the following  
36 duties delegated by, and under the supervision of, a health care  
37 practitioner:

38 (a) Fundamental procedures:

39 (i) Wrapping items for autoclaving;

40 (ii) Procedures for sterilizing equipment and instruments;



- 1 (iii) Disposing of biohazardous materials; and  
2 (iv) Practicing standard precautions.
- 3 (b) Clinical procedures:  
4 (i) Preparing for sterile procedures;  
5 (ii) Taking vital signs;  
6 (iii) Preparing patients for examination; and  
7 (iv) Observing and reporting patients' signs or symptoms.
- 8 (c) Specimen collection:  
9 (i) Obtaining specimens for microbiological testing; and  
10 (ii) Instructing patients in proper technique to collect urine  
11 and fecal specimens.
- 12 (d) Patient care:  
13 (i) Telephone and in-person screening limited to intake and  
14 gathering of information without requiring the exercise of judgment  
15 based on clinical knowledge;  
16 (ii) Obtaining vital signs;  
17 (iii) Obtaining and recording patient history;  
18 (iv) Preparing and maintaining examination and treatment areas;  
19 (v) Preparing patients for, and assisting with, routine and  
20 specialty examinations, procedures, treatments, and minor office  
21 surgeries, including those with minimal sedation. The department may,  
22 by rule, prohibit duties authorized under this subsection (4)(d)(v)  
23 if performance of those duties by a medical assistant-registered  
24 would pose an unreasonable risk to patient safety;  
25 (vi) Maintaining medication and immunization records; and  
26 (vii) Screening and following up on test results as directed by a  
27 health care practitioner.
- 28 (e) Diagnostic testing and electrocardiography.
- 29 (f) (i) Tests waived under the federal clinical laboratory  
30 improvement amendments program on July 1, 2013. The department shall  
31 periodically update the tests authorized under subsection (1)(d) of  
32 this section based on changes made by the federal clinical laboratory  
33 improvement amendments program.  
34 (ii) Moderate complexity tests if the medical assistant-  
35 registered meets standards for personnel qualifications and  
36 responsibilities in compliance with federal regulation for nonwaived  
37 testing.
- 38 (g) Administering eye drops, topical ointments, and vaccines,  
39 including combination or multidose vaccines.
- 40 (h) Urethral catheterization when appropriately trained.

1 (i) Administering medications:

2 (i) A medical assistant-registered may only administer  
3 medications if the drugs are:

4 (A) Administered only by unit or single dosage, or by a dosage  
5 calculated and verified by a health care practitioner. For purposes  
6 of this section, a combination or multidose vaccine shall be  
7 considered a unit dose;

8 (B) Limited to legend drugs, vaccines, and Schedule III through V  
9 controlled substances as authorized by a health care practitioner  
10 under the scope of his or her license and consistent with rules  
11 adopted by the secretary under (i)(ii) of this subsection; and

12 (C) Administered pursuant to a written order from a health care  
13 practitioner.

14 (ii) A medical assistant-registered may only administer  
15 medication for intramuscular injections. A medical assistant-  
16 registered may not administer experimental drugs or chemotherapy  
17 agents. The secretary may, by rule, further limit the drugs that may  
18 be administered under this subsection (4)(i). The rules adopted under  
19 this subsection must limit the drugs based on risk, class, or route.

20 (j) Intramuscular injections. A medical assistant-registered may  
21 administer intramuscular injections for diagnostic or therapeutic  
22 agents under the immediate supervision of a health care practitioner  
23 if the medical assistant-registered meets minimum standards  
24 established by the secretary in rule.

25 (5)(a) A medical assistant-EMT may perform the following duties  
26 delegated by, and under the supervision of, a health care  
27 practitioner if the duties are within the scope and training of the  
28 medical assistant-EMT's emergency medical technician certification or  
29 paramedic certification:

30 (i) Fundamental procedures:

31 (A) Disposing of biohazardous materials; and

32 (B) Practicing standard precautions;

33 (ii) Clinical procedures:

34 (A) Taking vital signs;

35 (B) IV insertion and removal;

36 (C) Preparing patients for examination;

37 (D) Observing and reporting patients' signs or symptoms;

38 (E) Eye irrigation;

39 (F) Hemorrhage control with direct pressure or hemostatic gauze;

40 (G) Spinal and extremity motion restriction and immobilization;

1       (H) Oxygen administration;  
2       (I) Airway maintenance, stabilization, and suctioning;  
3       (J) Cardiopulmonary resuscitation; and  
4       (K) Use of automated external defibrillators and semiautomated  
5 external defibrillators;  
6       (iii) Specimen collection:  
7       (A) Capillary puncture and venipuncture;  
8       (B) Obtaining specimens for microbiological testing; and  
9       (C) Instructing patients in proper technique to collect urine and  
10 fecal specimens;  
11       (iv) Diagnostic testing:  
12       (A) Electrocardiography; and  
13       (B) Respiratory testing, including nasopharyngeal swabbing for  
14 COVID-19;  
15       (v) Patient care:  
16       (A) Telephone and in-person screening, limited to intake and  
17 gathering of information without requiring the exercise of judgment  
18 based on clinical knowledge;  
19       (B) Obtaining vital signs;  
20       (C) Obtaining and recording patient history;  
21       (D) Preparing and maintaining examination and treatment areas;  
22       (E) Preparing patients for, and assisting with, routine and  
23 specialty examinations, procedures, treatments, and minor office  
24 surgeries; and  
25       (F) Maintaining medication and immunization records; and  
26       (vi) Administering medications, limited to intramuscular  
27 vaccinations, intramuscular and oral opioid antagonists, and oral  
28 glucose.  
29       (b) The secretary may adopt rules to establish additional duties  
30 a medical assistant-EMT may perform as the secretary deems  
31 appropriate.

32       **Sec. 6.** RCW 18.120.020 and 2023 c 460 s 14 and 2023 c 175 s 9  
33 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

34       The definitions in this section apply throughout this chapter  
35 unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

36       (1) "Applicant group" includes any health professional group or  
37 organization, any individual, or any other interested party which  
38 proposes that any health professional group not presently regulated

1 be regulated or which proposes to substantially increase the scope of  
2 practice of the profession.

3 (2) "Certificate" and "certification" mean a voluntary process by  
4 which a statutory regulatory entity grants recognition to an  
5 individual who (a) has met certain prerequisite qualifications  
6 specified by that regulatory entity, and (b) may assume or use  
7 "certified" in the title or designation to perform prescribed health  
8 professional tasks.

9 (3) "Grandfather clause" means a provision in a regulatory  
10 statute applicable to practitioners actively engaged in the regulated  
11 health profession prior to the effective date of the regulatory  
12 statute which exempts the practitioners from meeting the prerequisite  
13 qualifications set forth in the regulatory statute to perform  
14 prescribed occupational tasks.

15 (4) "Health professions" means and includes the following health  
16 and health-related licensed or regulated professions and occupations:  
17 Podiatric medicine and surgery under chapter 18.22 RCW; chiropractic  
18 under chapter 18.25 RCW; dental hygiene under chapter 18.29 RCW;  
19 dentistry under chapter 18.32 RCW; denturism under chapter 18.30 RCW;  
20 dental anesthesia assistants under chapter 18.350 RCW; dispensing  
21 opticians under chapter 18.34 RCW; hearing instruments under chapter  
22 18.35 RCW; naturopaths under chapter 18.36A RCW; embalming and  
23 funeral directing under chapter 18.39 RCW; midwifery under chapter  
24 18.50 RCW; nursing home administration under chapter 18.52 RCW;  
25 optometry under chapters 18.53 and 18.54 RCW; ocularists under  
26 chapter 18.55 RCW; osteopathic medicine and surgery under chapter  
27 18.57 RCW; pharmacy under chapters 18.64 and 18.64A RCW; medicine  
28 under chapters 18.71 and 18.71A RCW; emergency medicine under chapter  
29 18.73 RCW; physical therapy under chapter 18.74 RCW; practical nurses  
30 under chapter 18.79 RCW; psychologists under chapter 18.83 RCW;  
31 registered nurses under chapter 18.79 RCW; occupational therapists  
32 licensed under chapter 18.59 RCW; respiratory care practitioners  
33 licensed under chapter 18.89 RCW; veterinarians and veterinary  
34 technicians under chapter 18.92 RCW; massage therapists under chapter  
35 18.108 RCW; acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine  
36 practitioners licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW; persons registered  
37 under chapter 18.19 RCW; persons licensed as mental health  
38 counselors, marriage and family therapists, and social workers under  
39 chapter 18.225 RCW; dietitians and nutritionists certified by chapter  
40 18.138 RCW; radiologic technicians under chapter 18.84 RCW; nursing

1 assistants registered or certified under chapter 18.88A RCW;  
2 reflexologists certified under chapter 18.108 RCW; medical  
3 assistants-certified, medical assistants-hemodialysis technician,  
4 medical assistants-phlebotomist, forensic phlebotomist, medical  
5 assistant-EMT, and medical assistants-registered certified and  
6 registered under chapter 18.360 RCW; licensed behavior analysts,  
7 licensed assistant behavior analysts, and certified behavior  
8 technicians under chapter 18.380 RCW; music therapists licensed under  
9 chapter 18.233 RCW; and dental therapists licensed under chapter  
10 18.265 RCW.

11 (5) "Inspection" means the periodic examination of practitioners  
12 by a state agency in order to ascertain whether the practitioners'  
13 occupation is being carried out in a fashion consistent with the  
14 public health, safety, and welfare.

15 (6) "Legislative committees of reference" means the standing  
16 legislative committees designated by the respective rules committees  
17 of the senate and house of representatives to consider proposed  
18 legislation to regulate health professions not previously regulated.

19 (7) "License," "licensing," and "licensure" mean permission to  
20 engage in a health profession which would otherwise be unlawful in  
21 the state in the absence of the permission. A license is granted to  
22 those individuals who meet prerequisite qualifications to perform  
23 prescribed health professional tasks and for the use of a particular  
24 title.

25 (8) "Practitioner" means an individual who (a) has achieved  
26 knowledge and skill by practice, and (b) is actively engaged in a  
27 specified health profession.

28 (9) "Professional license" means an individual, nontransferable  
29 authorization to carry on a health activity based on qualifications  
30 which include: (a) Graduation from an accredited or approved program,  
31 and (b) acceptable performance on a qualifying examination or series  
32 of examinations.

33 (10) "Public member" means an individual who is not, and never  
34 was, a member of the health profession being regulated or the spouse  
35 of a member, or an individual who does not have and never has had a  
36 material financial interest in either the rendering of the health  
37 professional service being regulated or an activity directly related  
38 to the profession being regulated.

39 (11) "Registration" means the formal notification which, prior to  
40 rendering services, a practitioner shall submit to a state agency

1 setting forth the name and address of the practitioner; the location,  
2 nature and operation of the health activity to be practiced; and, if  
3 required by the regulatory entity, a description of the service to be  
4 provided.

5 (12) "Regulatory entity" means any board, commission, agency,  
6 division, or other unit or subunit of state government which  
7 regulates one or more professions, occupations, industries,  
8 businesses, or other endeavors in this state.

9 (13) "State agency" includes every state office, department,  
10 board, commission, regulatory entity, and agency of the state, and,  
11 where provided by law, programs and activities involving less than  
12 the full responsibility of a state agency.

13 **Sec. 7.** RCW 18.130.040 and 2023 c 469 s 18, 2023 c 460 s 15,  
14 2023 c 425 s 27, 2023 c 270 s 14, 2023 c 175 s 11, and 2023 c 123 s  
15 21 are each reenacted and amended to read as follows:

16 (1) This chapter applies only to the secretary and the boards and  
17 commissions having jurisdiction in relation to the professions  
18 licensed under the chapters specified in this section. This chapter  
19 does not apply to any business or profession not licensed under the  
20 chapters specified in this section.

21 (2) (a) The secretary has authority under this chapter in relation  
22 to the following professions:

23 (i) Dispensing opticians licensed and designated apprentices  
24 under chapter 18.34 RCW;

25 (ii) Midwives licensed under chapter 18.50 RCW;

26 (iii) Ocularists licensed under chapter 18.55 RCW;

27 (iv) Massage therapists and businesses licensed under chapter  
28 18.108 RCW;

29 (v) Dental hygienists licensed under chapter 18.29 RCW;

30 (vi) Acupuncturists or acupuncture and Eastern medicine  
31 practitioners licensed under chapter 18.06 RCW;

32 (vii) Radiologic technologists certified and X-ray technicians  
33 registered under chapter 18.84 RCW;

34 (viii) Respiratory care practitioners licensed under chapter  
35 18.89 RCW;

36 (ix) Hypnotherapists registered, agency affiliated counselors  
37 registered, certified, or licensed, and advisors and counselors  
38 certified under chapter 18.19 RCW;

- 1 (x) Persons licensed as mental health counselors, mental health  
2 counselor associates, marriage and family therapists, marriage and  
3 family therapist associates, social workers, social work associates—  
4 advanced, and social work associates—independent clinical under  
5 chapter 18.225 RCW;
- 6 (xi) Persons registered as nursing pool operators under chapter  
7 18.52C RCW;
- 8 (xii) Nursing assistants registered or certified or medication  
9 assistants endorsed under chapter 18.88A RCW;
- 10 (xiii) Dietitians and nutritionists certified under chapter  
11 18.138 RCW;
- 12 (xiv) Substance use disorder professionals, substance use  
13 disorder professional trainees, or co-occurring disorder specialists  
14 certified under chapter 18.205 RCW;
- 15 (xv) Sex offender treatment providers and certified affiliate sex  
16 offender treatment providers certified under chapter 18.155 RCW;
- 17 (xvi) Persons licensed and certified under chapter 18.73 RCW or  
18 RCW 18.71.205;
- 19 (xvii) Orthotists and prosthetists licensed under chapter 18.200  
20 RCW;
- 21 (xviii) Surgical technologists registered under chapter 18.215  
22 RCW;
- 23 (xix) Recreational therapists under chapter 18.230 RCW;
- 24 (xx) Animal massage therapists certified under chapter 18.240  
25 RCW;
- 26 (xxi) Athletic trainers licensed under chapter 18.250 RCW;
- 27 (xxii) Home care aides certified under chapter 18.88B RCW;
- 28 (xxiii) Genetic counselors licensed under chapter 18.290 RCW;
- 29 (xxiv) Reflexologists certified under chapter 18.108 RCW;
- 30 (xxv) Medical assistants-certified, medical assistants-  
31 hemodialysis technician, medical assistants-phlebotomist, forensic  
32 phlebotomist, medical-assistant-EMT, and medical assistants-  
33 registered certified and registered under chapter 18.360 RCW;
- 34 (xxvi) Behavior analysts, assistant behavior analysts, and  
35 behavior technicians under chapter 18.380 RCW;
- 36 (xxvii) Birth doula certified under chapter 18.47 RCW;
- 37 (xxviii) Music therapists licensed under chapter 18.233 RCW;
- 38 (xxix) Behavioral health support specialists certified under  
39 chapter 18.227 RCW; and

1 (xxx) Certified peer specialists and certified peer specialist  
2 trainees under chapter 18.420 RCW.

3 (b) The boards and commissions having authority under this  
4 chapter are as follows:

5 (i) The podiatric medical board as established in chapter 18.22  
6 RCW;

7 (ii) The chiropractic quality assurance commission as established  
8 in chapter 18.25 RCW;

9 (iii) The dental quality assurance commission as established in  
10 chapter 18.32 RCW governing licenses issued under chapter 18.32 RCW,  
11 licenses and registrations issued under chapter 18.260 RCW, licenses  
12 issued under chapter 18.265 RCW, and certifications issued under  
13 chapter 18.350 RCW;

14 (iv) The board of hearing and speech as established in chapter  
15 18.35 RCW;

16 (v) The board of examiners for nursing home administrators as  
17 established in chapter 18.52 RCW;

18 (vi) The optometry board as established in chapter 18.54 RCW  
19 governing licenses issued under chapter 18.53 RCW;

20 (vii) The board of osteopathic medicine and surgery as  
21 established in chapter 18.57 RCW governing licenses issued under  
22 chapter 18.57 RCW;

23 (viii) The pharmacy quality assurance commission as established  
24 in chapter 18.64 RCW governing licenses issued under chapters 18.64  
25 and 18.64A RCW;

26 (ix) The Washington medical commission as established in chapter  
27 18.71 RCW governing licenses and registrations issued under chapters  
28 18.71 and 18.71A RCW;

29 (x) The board of physical therapy as established in chapter 18.74  
30 RCW;

31 (xi) The board of occupational therapy practice as established in  
32 chapter 18.59 RCW;

33 (xii) The board of nursing as established in chapter 18.79 RCW  
34 governing licenses and registrations issued under that chapter and  
35 under chapter 18.80 RCW;

36 (xiii) The examining board of psychology and its disciplinary  
37 committee as established in chapter 18.83 RCW;

38 (xiv) The veterinary board of governors as established in chapter  
39 18.92 RCW;



1 (xv) The board of naturopathy established in chapter 18.36A RCW,  
2 governing licenses and certifications issued under that chapter; and

3 (xvi) The board of denturists established in chapter 18.30 RCW.

4 (3) In addition to the authority to discipline license holders,  
5 the disciplining authority has the authority to grant or deny  
6 licenses. The disciplining authority may also grant a license subject  
7 to conditions.

8 (4) All disciplining authorities shall adopt procedures to ensure  
9 substantially consistent application of this chapter, the uniform  
10 disciplinary act, among the disciplining authorities listed in  
11 subsection (2) of this section.

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