Title 391 WAC

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

Chapters

391-08 Rules of practice and procedure—Public employment relations commission.
391-25 Representation case rules.
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Chapter 391-08 WAC

RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE—PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

WAC
391-08-001 Application and scope of chapter 391-08 WAC.

WAC 391-08-001 Application and scope of chapter 391-08 WAC. Chapter 391-08 WAC has been added to the Washington Administrative Code by the public employment relations commission pursuant to the authority of section 12, chapter 288, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. (RCW 41.59.110); and sections 7, 14 and 20, chapter 296, Laws of 1975 1st ex. sess. (RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080 and 41.56.090, respectively), to promulgate comprehensive and uniform rules for practice and procedure before the agency. This chapter sets forth general rules applicable to all types of proceedings before the agency, and should be read in conjunction with the provisions of:

(1) Chapter 10-08 WAC, which contains the model rules of procedure promulgated by the chief administrative law judge to regulate adjudicative proceedings under chapters 391-25, 391-35, 391-45 and 391-95 WAC, except:
   (a) WAC 10-08-035, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-25-070, 391-25-090, 391-35-050, 391-45-050, and 391-95-110;
   (b) WAC 10-08-050, which relates to office of administrative hearings procedures inapplicable to proceedings before the public employment relations commission;
   (c) WAC 10-08-083, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-08-010;
   (d) WAC 10-08-110, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-08-120;
   (e) WAC 10-08-120, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-08-040, 391-08-300 and 391-08-310;
   (f) WAC 10-08-140, which is limited by WAC 391-08-040, 391-08-300 and 391-08-310;
   (g) WAC 10-08-150, which is limited by WAC 391-08-315;
   (h) WAC 10-08-211, which is replaced by WAC 391-08-640 and detailed requirements in WAC 391-25-390, 391-25-391, 391-25-590, 391-25-630, 391-25-650, 391-25-660, 391-

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(i) WAC 10-08-230, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-25-150, 391-25-220, 391-25-230, 391-25-250, 391-25-270, 391-35-070, 391-35-080, 391-45-070, 391-45-260, and 391-95-170; and
(j) WAC 10-08-250, 10-08-251, and 10-08-252 which are replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-08-520.

(2) Chapter 391-25 WAC, which regulates representation proceedings.

(3) Chapter 391-35 WAC, which regulates unit clarification proceedings and contains some well-established unit determination standards in a subchapter of rules beginning at WAC 391-35-300.

(4) Chapter 391-45 WAC, which regulates unfair labor practice proceedings.

(5) Chapter 391-55 WAC, which regulates the resolution of impasses in collective bargaining.

(6) Chapter 391-65 WAC, which regulates grievance arbitration and grievance mediation proceedings.

(7) Chapter 391-95 WAC, which regulates union security nonassociation proceedings.

In the event of a conflict between a general rule in this chapter and a special rule in another chapter applicable to a particular proceeding, the special rule shall govern.

[WAC 391-25-001, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-001, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/20/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 391-25-002,序号 391-25-004, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80; Order 77-1, § 391-25-001, filed 12/27/77]

Chapter 391-25 WAC REPRESENTATION CASE RULES

WAC
391-25-001 Scope—Contents—Other rules.
391-25-002 Sequence and numbering of rules—Special provisions.
391-25-010 Petition for investigation of a question concerning representation of employees—Who may file.
391-25-030 Petition—Time for filing.
391-25-050 Petition in writing—Number of copies—Filing—Service.
391-25-070 Contents of petition.
391-25-090 Petition filed by employer.
391-25-110 Supporting evidence—Showing of interest confidential.
391-25-130 List of employees.
391-25-140 Notice to employees—Limitations on employer actions.
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391-25-450 Disclaimers.
391-25-470 Mail ballot election procedures—Electioneering—Objectionable conduct.
391-25-490 On-site election procedures—Electioneering—Objectionable conduct.
391-25-510 Challenged ballots.
391-25-610 Procedure where no objections are filed.
391-25-650 Briefs and written arguments on objections.

WAC 391-25-001 Scope—Contents—Other rules.
This chapter governs proceedings before the public employment relations commission on petitions for investigation of questions concerning representation of employees. The provisions of this chapter should be read in conjunction with:

(1) Chapter 10-08 WAC, which contains the model rules of procedure promulgated by the chief administrative law judge to regulate adjudicative proceedings under chapter 34.05 RCW, except:
   (a) WAC 10-08-035, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-25-070 and 391-25-090;
   (b) WAC 10-08-050, which relates to office of administrative hearings procedures applicable to proceedings before the public employment relations commission;
   (c) WAC 10-08-211, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-25-390, 391-25-391, 391-25-590, 391-25-630, 391-25-650, and 391-25-670; and
   (d) WAC 10-08-230, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-25-150, 391-25-220, 391-25-230, and 391-25-250.

(2) Chapter 391-08 WAC, which contains rules of practice and procedure applicable to all types of proceedings before the public employment relations commission, and which also replaces some provisions of chapter 10-08 WAC.

(3) Chapter 391-35 WAC, which regulates unit clarification proceedings and contains some well-established unit determination standards in a subchapter of rules beginning at WAC 391-35-300.

(4) Chapter 391-45 WAC, which regulates unfair labor practice proceedings.

(5) Chapter 391-55 WAC, which regulates the resolution of impasses in collective bargaining.

(6) Chapter 391-65 WAC, which regulates grievance arbitration and grievance mediation proceedings.

(7) Chapter 391-95 WAC, which regulates union security nonassociation proceedings.

[WAC 391-25-002,序号 391-25-004, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80]

WAC 391-25-002 Sequence and numbering of rules—Special provisions.
This chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is designed to regulate proceedings under a number of different chapters of the Revised Code of Washington. General rules are set forth in sections with numbers divisible by ten. Where a deviation from the general rule is required for conformity with a particular statute, that special provision is set forth in a separate rule numbered as follows:
(1) Special provisions relating to chapter 41.56 RCW (Public Employees' Collective Bargaining Act) and to chapter 53.18 RCW (port employees) are set forth in WAC sections numbered one digit greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

(2) Special provisions relating to chapter 41.59 RCW (Educational Employment Relations Act) are set forth in WAC sections numbered two digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

(3) Special provisions relating to chapter 28B.52 RCW (professional negotiations—academic faculties of community college districts) are set forth in WAC sections numbered three digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

(4) Special provisions relating to chapter 49.08 RCW (private sector and other employees) are set forth in WAC sections numbered nine digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 01-14-09, § 391-25-002, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and chapters 28B.52, 41.56, 41.58, 41.59, 49.08 and 53.18 RCW. 90-06-072, § 391-25-002, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.022, 41.58.050, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 28B.52.080. 83-24-032 (Order 83-03), § 391-25-002, filed 12/1/83, effective 1/1/84. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52, 41.56, 41.58, 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-002, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.022, 41.58.050, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 28B.52.080. 83-24-032 (Order 83-03), § 391-25-002, filed 12/1/83, effective 1/1/84. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 34.05.413, 41.56.050, 41.56.060, 41.56.070, 41.59.070 and 41.59.080. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-002, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-010 Petition for investigation of a question concerning representation of employees—Who may file. A petition for investigation of a question concerning representation of employees may be filed by any employer, group of employees, employee organization, employer, or their agents.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 01-14-09, § 391-25-010, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 41.56.040. 90-06-072, § 391-25-010, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 391-25-030, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.58.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-010, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-030 Petition—Time for filing. (1) A "contract bar" exists while a valid collective bargaining agreement is in effect, so that a petition involving any or all of the employees covered by the agreement will be timely only if it is filed during the "window" period not more than ninety nor less than sixty days prior to the stated expiration date of the collective bargaining agreement.

(a) To constitute a valid collective bargaining agreement for purposes of this subsection:

(i) The agreement must cover a bargaining unit that is appropriate under the terms of the applicable statute;

(ii) The agreement must be in writing, and signed by the parties' representatives;

(iii) The agreement must contain a fixed expiration date not less than ninety days after it was signed; and

(iv) The agreement will only operate as a bar for the first three years after its effective date.

(b) An agreement to extend or replace a collective bargaining agreement shall not bar a petition filed in the "window" period of the previous agreement.

(c) A "protected" period is in effect during the sixty days following a "window" period in which no petition is filed, and a successor agreement negotiated by the employer and incumbent exclusive bargaining representative during that period will bar a petition under this chapter. If the filing and withdrawal or dismissal of a petition under this chapter intrudes upon the protected period, the employer and incumbent exclusive bargaining representative shall be given a sixty-day protected period commencing on the date the withdrawal or dismissal is final.

(2) A "certification bar" exists where a certification has been issued by the agency, so that a petition involving the same bargaining unit or any subdivision of that bargaining unit will only be timely if it is filed:

(a) More than twelve months following the date of the certification of an exclusive bargaining representative; or

(b) More than twelve months following the date of the latest election or cross-check in which the employees failed to select an exclusive bargaining representative.

(3) Where neither a "contract bar" nor a "certification bar" is in effect under this section, a petition may be filed at any time.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 34.05.413, 41.56.050, 41.56.060, 41.56.070, 41.59.070 and 41.59.080. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-030, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-050 Petition in writing—Number of copies—Filing—Service. Each petition for investigation of a question concerning representation shall be in writing, and shall be filed at the commission's Olympia office, as required by WAC 391-08-120(1). The party filing the petition shall serve a copy of the petition (excluding any showing of interest) on the employer and on each employee organization named in the petition as having an interest in the proceedings, as required by WAC 391-08-120 (3) and (4).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 34.05.413, 41.56.050, 41.56.060, 41.56.070, 41.59.070 and 41.59.080. 96-07-105, § 391-25-030, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/20/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-030, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-030, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-070 Contents of petition. Each petition for investigation of a question concerning representation shall contain, in separate numbered paragraphs:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the employer, and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative.

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(2) The name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of the petitioner, and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative.

(3) The name, address, and telephone number of any organization which currently represents the employees involved and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative.

(4) An indication that:
   (a) There has never been a collective bargaining agreement covering the employees involved; or
   (b) A copy of the current (or most recent) collective bargaining agreement is attached.

(5) Identification of:
   (a) The employer’s principal business;
   (b) The employer department or division involved;
   (c) A description of the bargaining unit which the petitioner claims to be appropriate, specifying inclusions and exclusions; and
   (d) The number of employees in the bargaining unit.

(6) A statement that:
   (a) The petitioner claims to represent a majority of the employees involved, and requests certification as exclusive bargaining representative of the bargaining unit; or
   (b) The employees in the bargaining unit desire to change their exclusive bargaining representative, and to designate the petitioner as their exclusive bargaining representative; or
   (c) The employees in the bargaining unit no longer desire to be represented by any employee organization; or
   (d) The employer has been presented with one or more demands for recognition, and requests a determination by the commission; or
   (e) The employer has a good faith belief that a majority of employees no longer desire representation by the incumbent exclusive bargaining representative.

(7) Any other relevant facts.

(8) The name, signature and, if any, title of the petitioner or its representative, and the date of the signature.

(2) Where an employer disputes the majority status of the incumbent exclusive bargaining representative of its employees, it shall obtain a determination of the question concerning representation by filing a petition under WAC 391-25-070.

(a) Instead of a showing of interest under WAC 391-25-110, the employer shall attach affidavits and other documentation as may be available to it to demonstrate the existence of a good faith belief that a majority of its employees in an existing bargaining unit no longer desire to be represented by their incumbent exclusive bargaining representative.

(b) Unsolicited signature documents provided to the employer by employees and filed by the employer in support of a petition under this subsection must be in a form which would qualify under WAC 391-25-110 if filed by the employees directly with the commission, and shall be treated as confidential under WAC 391-25-110.

(3) A petition under this section shall be filed at the commission’s Olympia office, as required by WAC 391-08-120(1). The employer shall serve a copy of the petition (excluding any showing of interest) on each employee organization named in the petition as having an interest in the proceedings, as required by WAC 391-08-120(3) and (4).

WAC 391-25-110 Supporting evidence—Showing of interest confidential. (1) A petition filed by employees or an employee organization shall be accompanied by a showing of interest indicating that the petitioner has the support of thirty percent or more of the employees in the bargaining unit which the petitioner claims to be appropriate. The showing of interest shall be furnished under the same timeliness standards applicable to the petition, and shall consist of original or legible copies of individual authorization cards or letters signed and dated by employees in the bargaining unit claimed appropriate.

(2) The agency shall not disclose the identities of employees whose authorization cards or letters are furnished to the agency in proceedings under this chapter.

(a) A petitioner or intervenor shall not serve its showing of interest on any other party to the proceeding.

(b) The question of whether a showing of interest requirement for a petition or for intervention has been satisfied is a matter for administrative determination by the agency and may not be litigated at any hearing.

(c) In order to preserve the confidentiality of the showing of interest and the right of employees freely to express their views on the selection of a bargaining representative, the
agency shall not honor any attempt to withdraw any authorization submitted for purposes of this section.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-110, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 98-14-112, § 391-25-110, filed 7/19/98, effective 8/1/98; 96-07-105, § 391-25-110, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/2/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 41.56.090. 09-06-072, § 391-25-140, filed 3/7/99, effective 4/7/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.58.050, 41.56.090 and 41.59.110. 88-12-054 (Order 88-02), § 391-25-140, filed 5/31/88.]

WAC 391-25-130 List of employees. Within ten days following a request by the agency, the employer shall submit to the agency a list containing the names and last known addresses of all of the employees in the bargaining unit described in the petition. Following administrative determination that the petition is supported by a sufficient showing of interest, the agency shall furnish a copy of the list of names and addresses to the petitioner. Following granting of a motion for intervention, the agency shall furnish a copy of the list of names and addresses to the intervenor.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-130, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 96-07-105, § 391-25-130, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/2/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 41.56.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-110, filed 3/7/99, effective 4/7/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.58.050, 41.56.090 and 41.59.110. 88-12-054 (Order 88-02), § 391-25-130, filed 5/31/88.]

WAC 391-25-140 Notice to employees—Limitations on employer actions. (1) The employer shall post a copy of the petition and notice, in the form specified by the commission, to inform employees of the existence of proceedings under this chapter. The agency shall furnish the employer with copies of the petition and notice, and the employer shall post them in conspicuous places on its premises where notices to affected employees are usually posted. The petition and notice shall remain posted until a certification or interim certification is issued in the proceeding.

(2) Changes of the status quo concerning wages, hours or other terms and conditions of employment of employees in the bargaining unit are prohibited during the period that a petition is pending before the commission under this chapter.

(3) The employer shall not express or otherwise indicate any preference between competing organizations, where two or more employee organizations are seeking to represent its employees.

(4) Where a petition filed under this chapter involves employees who are represented for the purposes of collective bargaining, the employer shall suspend negotiations with the incumbent exclusive bargaining representative on a successor collective bargaining agreement involving employees affected by the petition. The employer and incumbent union may proceed with negotiations covering employees not affected by the petition, and shall resume negotiations on a successor agreement covering the affected employees after the question concerning representation is resolved, if the incumbent exclusive bargaining representative retains its status.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.050. 01-14-009, § 391-25-140, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 96-07-105, § 391-25-140, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/2/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 41.56.090. 09-06-072, § 391-25-140, filed 3/7/99, effective 4/7/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.58.050, 41.56.090 and 41.59.110. 88-12-054 (Order 88-02), § 391-25-140, filed 5/31/88.]

WAC 391-25-190 Intervention—By organization other than incumbent. (1) An organization not covered by WAC 391-25-170 may, by motion, intervene in proceedings under this chapter and, upon granting of its motion for intervention, shall be entitled to participate in the proceedings and have its name listed as a choice on the ballot in any election. The motion for intervention shall be supported by a showing of interest indicating that the intervenor has the support of ten percent or more of the employees in the bargaining unit which the petitioner claims to be appropriate. A showing of interest filed in support of a motion for intervention shall be subject to the requirements and confidentiality protections of WAC 391-25-110. A motion for intervention may be granted conditionally subject to the subsequent furnishing of a showing of interest under such conditions as the agency may impose to avoid undue delay of the proceedings.

(2) No motion for intervention shall be considered if made:

(a) After the close of the hearing on the petition;

(b) More than seven days after the filing and posting of an election agreement or cross-check agreement; or

(c) More than seven days after the posting of an investigation statement.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 88-12-054 (Order 88-02), § 391-25-190, filed 5/31/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.58.050, 41.56.090 and 41.59.110. 88-12-054 (Order 88-02), § 391-25-190, filed 5/31/88.]

WAC 391-25-210 Bargaining unit configurations—Positions limited by showing of interest. (1) In proceedings on a petition for "decertification" under WAC 391-25-070 (6)(c) or 391-25-090(2), the parties shall not be permitted to remove positions from or add positions to the existing bargaining unit; (2) An organization which files a motion for intervention under WAC 391-25-190 shall only be permitted to seek a bargaining unit configuration different than proposed by the original petitioner if the intervenor furnishes a showing of interest demonstrating that it has the support of thirty percent or more of the employees in the bargaining unit which the intervenor claims to be appropriate.

(3) A party to proceedings under this chapter shall not be permitted to propose more than one bargaining unit configuration for the same employee or employees, except where a merger of bargaining units is proposed under WAC 391-25-420.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-210, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 96-07-105, § 391-25-210, filed 3/7/99, effective 4/7/99. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.58.050, 41.56.090 and 41.59.110. 09-06-072, § 391-25-210, filed 5/31/88.]

[2002 WAC Supp—page 2075]
WAC 391-25-220 Investigation conferences. (1) The agency routinely conducts conferences with the parties, to investigate a representation petition according to a checklist provided to the parties.

(a) The issues which may properly arise in representation cases include:

(i) The identification of the parties;
(ii) The jurisdiction of the commission;
(iii) The qualification of the petitioner and any intervenor(s) for certification as exclusive bargaining representative;
(iv) The existence of a question concerning representation;
(v) The timeliness of the petition;
(vi) The existence of blocking charges under WAC 391-25-370;
(vii) The propriety of the petitioned-for bargaining unit;
(viii) The list of employees eligible to vote or be considered in determining a question concerning representation, and cut-off date for eligibility; and
(ix) The method and arrangements for determining a question concerning representation.

(b) The investigation conference may be conducted by telephone conference call, or in-person by agency staff.

(c) The parties are encouraged to reach binding stipulations on all issues during the course of the investigation conference.

(2) The stipulations made by the parties during an investigation conference may be set forth in an investigation statement issued in lieu of an election agreement or cross-check agreement.

(a) Immediately upon receipt of an investigation statement, the employer shall post it in conspicuous places on its premises where notices to affected employees are usually posted, and it shall remain posted for at least seven days.

(b) An investigation statement shall be binding on the parties unless written objections are filed and served as required by WAC 391-08-120 within ten days following issuance of the statement.

(3) When it appears that all conditions precedent to an election or cross-check are met, the executive director or designee shall determine whether the proposed bargaining unit is, on its face, an appropriate bargaining unit under the applicable statute. The agency shall proceed with the determination of the question concerning representation. Objections by parties named in the investigation statement shall be limited to matters relating to specific conduct affecting the results of an election.

(4) The parties may set forth stipulations in election agreements or cross-check agreements under this chapter.

WAC 391-25-230 Election agreements. Where an employer and all other parties agree on a representation election, they may enter into an election agreement.

(1) An election agreement shall include:

(a) The name, address, and telephone number of the employer and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative;

(b) The names, addresses, and telephone numbers of all other parties participating in the election agreement and the names, addresses, telephone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses of their principal representatives;

(c) A description of the bargaining unit agreed to be appropriate, specifying inclusions and exclusions, and the number of employees in the unit;

(d) A statement by the parties that no organization is known which is or may be entitled to intervene as an incumbent representative, or the incumbent representative is a party to the election agreement, or the incumbent representative has abandoned the unit as evidenced by documentation attached to the election agreement;

(e) A statement that no other organization is known which claims to represent any of the employees in the bargaining unit; that the parties agree that a question concerning representation exists; that a hearing is waived; and that the agency is requested to proceed to conduct an election and certify the results;

(f) A list containing the names of the employees eligible to vote in the election and the eligibility cut-off date for the election. If the election is to be conducted by mail ballot, the list shall include the last known address of each of the employees eligible to vote. If no eligibility cut-off date is specified by the parties, the eligibility cut-off date shall be the date on which the election agreement is filed;

(g) The suggestions of the parties as to the arrangements for conducting the election; and

(h) The names, signatures and, if any, titles of all parties or their representatives, and the date of the signatures.

(2) An election agreement shall be filed at the commission's Olympia office as required by WAC 391-08-120(1), and copies shall be posted by the employer in conspicuous places on the employer's premises where notices to affected employees are usually posted. The election agreement shall remain posted for at least seven days after it is filed with the agency.

(3) Upon the filing of an election agreement, the executive director or designee shall determine whether the proposed bargaining unit is, on its face, an appropriate bargaining unit under the applicable statute, and whether other conditions precedent to an election are met. The agency shall proceed to conduct an election, if appropriate, or shall notify the parties of the reasons for rejection of the election agreement.

(4) Objections to the election by a party to the election agreement shall be limited to matters relating to specific conduct affecting the results of the election.
WAC 391-25-250 Cross-check agreements. Where only one organization is seeking certification as the representative of unrepresented employees, and the employer and organization desire an expedited certification in lieu of a voluntary recognition, they may enter into a cross-check agreement.

(1) A cross-check agreement shall include:
   (a) The name, address, and telephone number of the employer and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative;
   (b) The name, address, and telephone number of the organization and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative;
   (c) A description of the bargaining unit agreed to be appropriate, specifying inclusions and exclusions, and the number of employees in the unit;
   (d) A statement by the parties that no other organization is known which claims to represent any of the employees in the bargaining unit; that the parties agree that a question concerning representation exists; that a hearing is waived; and that the agency is requested to conduct and certify the results of a cross-check of individually signed and dated authorizations cards or letters submitted by the organization against the employment records of the employer;
   (e) A list containing the names of the employees in the bargaining unit;
   (f) The suggestions of the parties as to the arrangements for conducting the cross-check;
   (g) The agreement of the parties to be bound by the results of the cross-check; and
   (h) The names, signatures and, if any, titles of all parties or their representatives, and the date of the signatures.

(2) A cross-check agreement shall be filed at the commission's Olympia office as required by WAC 391-08-120(1), and copies shall be posted by the employer in conspicuous places on the employer's premises where notices to affected employees are usually posted. The cross-check agreement shall remain posted for at least seven days after it is filed with the agency.

(3) Upon the filing of a cross-check agreement, the executive director or designee shall determine whether the proposed bargaining unit is, on its face, an appropriate bargaining unit under the applicable statute, and whether other conditions precedent to a cross-check are met. The agency shall proceed with the cross-check of records, if appropriate, or shall notify the parties of the reasons for rejection of the cross-check agreement. The cross-check may be conducted at any time following the execution of a cross-check agreement; but no certification shall be issued until seven days have elapsed following the filing and posting of the cross-check agreement. Where a motion for intervention is timely filed and granted, no certification shall be issued on the basis of the cross-check.

WAC 391-25-270 Interim certification—Supplemental proceedings. Where the matters at issue in a proceeding under this chapter are limited to the eligibility of particular individuals or classifications for inclusion in the bargaining unit, the executive director or designee may expedite the determination of the question concerning representation while reserving the eligibility issues for subsequent determination.

(1) The agency shall conduct an election or cross-check, as may be appropriate.
   (a) The individuals whose eligibility is disputed shall be permitted to vote by challenged ballot in an election.
   (b) The individuals whose eligibility is disputed shall be listed as challenged in a cross-check, and any authorizations signed by those individuals shall not be tallied.

(2) After a tally is issued under WAC 391-25-550:
   (a) If the challenges are sufficient in number to affect the outcome, they shall be determined under subsection (3) of this section, prior to the issuance of a certification.
   (b) If an organization is entitled to certification regardless of the reserved eligibility issues, a certification shall be issued, but the case shall remain open for supplemental proceedings under subsection (3) of this section. The employer and the exclusive bargaining representative shall have the duty to bargain, under the applicable statute, after a certification is issued under (b) of this subsection.
   (c) If a certification of "no representation" is appropriate regardless of the reserved eligibility issues, a certification shall be issued and no supplemental proceedings shall be conducted.

(3) All eligibility issues reserved for subsequent determination under this section shall be resolved under WAC 391-25-290, 391-25-310, 391-25-350 and 391-25-390, without regard to whether the individuals cast challenged ballots.

WAC 391-25-290 Notice of hearing. If it appears to the executive director or designee that a question concerning representation may exist, a hearing officer shall issue a notice of hearing and have it served on the parties. Attached to the notice of hearing shall be a copy of the investigation state-
ment issued under WAC 391-25-220. A notice of hearing may be amended or withdrawn before the close of the hearing.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050. 01-14-009, § 391-25-290, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 41.56.040. 90-06-072, § 391-25-290, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.050 and 41.59.110. 88-12-054 (Order 88-02), § 391-25-290, filed 5/31/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-290, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-299 Special provision—Private sector and other employees. The commission lacks authority to proceed in representation disputes under chapter 49.08 RCW absent the agreement of all parties. WAC 391-25-290 through 391-25-390 shall not be applicable to proceedings under chapter 49.08 RCW, except for hearings and issues submitted by stipulation of all parties to the proceeding.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050. 01-14-009, § 391-25-299, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and chapter 49.08 RCW. 90-06-072, § 391-25-299, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-299, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-350 Hearings—Reopening of hearing—Briefs. (1) Hearings shall be public, except where a protective order is issued under WAC 10-08-200(7), and shall be limited to matters concerning the determination of a question concerning representation.

(a) The parties shall be responsible for the presentation of their cases.

(b) The hearing officer shall ascertain the respective positions of the parties, to obtain a full and complete factual record upon which the agency may discharge its responsibilities under the applicable statute. The hearing officer has authority, under WAC 10-08-200 (8) and (9), to ask questions, call witnesses, and explore matters not raised or only partially raised by the parties.

(2) Once a hearing has been declared closed, it may be reopened only upon the timely motion of a party upon discovery of new evidence which could not with reasonable diligence have been discovered and produced at the hearing.

(3) The hearing officer may allow or direct the filing of briefs as to any or all of the issues in a case. Arrangements and due dates for briefs shall be established by the hearing officer. Any brief shall be filed with the hearing officer as required by WAC 391-08-120(1), and copies shall be served on all other parties to the proceeding as required by WAC 391-08-120 (3) and (4).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 34.05.437, 41.56.060, 41.56.070, 41.59.070 and 41.59.080. 01-14-009, § 391-25-350, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 00-14-048, § 391-25-350, filed 6/30/00, effective 9/1/00; 98-14-112, § 391-25-370, filed 7/1/98, effective 8/1/98; 96-07-105, § 391-25-370, filed 3/30/96, effective 4/20/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.59.070 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-370, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-370, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-370 Blocking charges—Suspension of proceedings—Request to proceed. (1) The executive director may suspend the processing of a representation petition under this chapter pending the outcome of related unfair labor practice proceedings, where:

(a) A complaint charging unfair labor practices is filed under the provisions of chapter 391-45 WAC; and

(b) It appears that the facts as alleged may constitute an unfair labor practice; and

(c) Such unfair labor practice could improperly affect the outcome of a representation election.

(2) The complainant(s) in the unfair labor practice case may file and serve, as required by WAC 391-08-120, a written request to proceed with the executive director. The request to proceed shall specify the case number of the representation proceeding, shall request that the representation petition be processed notwithstanding the pending unfair labor practice case, and shall waive the right to file objections under WAC 391-25-590 (1)(a) based on conduct alleged in the unfair labor practice case. Upon the filing of a request to proceed under this subsection, the executive director shall resume the processing of the representation petition and shall summarily dismiss any objections filed in conflict with the request to proceed.

(3) Where a complaint charging unfair labor practices is filed after the issuance of a notice of election, the executive director shall proceed with the determination of the question concerning representation, subject to the right of any party to file objections as provided in WAC 391-25-590.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050. 01-14-009, § 391-25-370, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 98-14-112, § 391-25-370, filed 7/1/98, effective 8/1/98; 96-07-105, § 391-25-370, filed 3/30/96, effective 4/20/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.59.070 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-370, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-370, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-390 Proceedings before the executive director. (1) The executive director may proceed upon the record, after submission of briefs or after hearing, as may be appropriate.

(a) The executive director shall determine whether a question concerning representation exists, and shall issue a direction of election, dismiss the petition or make other disposition of the matter.

(b) Unless otherwise provided in a direction of election, the cut-off date for eligibility to vote in an election shall be the date of issuance of the direction of election.

(2) Where the executive director determines that employee eligibility issues exist, the executive director may delegate authority to the hearing officer to decide those issues.

(3) A direction of election and other rulings in the proceedings up to the issuance of a tally are interim orders, and may only be appealed to the commission by objections under WAC 391-25-590 after the election. An exception is made for rulings on whether the employer or employees are subject to the jurisdiction of the commission, which may be appealed under WAC 391-25-660.
WAC 391-25-410 Cross-check of records. (1) Where a cross-check of records is to be conducted to determine a question concerning representation, the organization shall furnish to the agency original or legible copies of individual authorization cards or letters signed and dated by employees in the bargaining unit no more than ninety days prior to the filing of the petition. Authorization documents shall indicate that the employees authorize the named organization to represent them for the purposes of collective bargaining.

(2) The agency shall honor a valid revocation of authorization contained in an individual card or letter signed by the employee and furnished to the agency by the employee. The agency shall notify the petitioner of the existence and number of any such revocation(s) prior to the commencement of the cross-check, but shall not disclose the identities of the employees involved.

(3) The employer shall make available to the agency original or legible copies of employment records maintained as a part of its business records containing the names and signatures of the employees in the bargaining unit.

(4) Prior to the commencement of the cross-check, the organization may file and serve, as required by WAC 391-08-120, a request that the question concerning representation be determined by a representation election. Any such requests shall be honored.

(5) Where the organization files a disclaimer or a request for election after the commencement of the cross-check, the request shall be terminated and the organization shall not seek to be certified in the bargaining unit for a period of at least one year.

(6) All cross-checks shall be by actual comparison of records furnished by the parties. The agency shall not disclose the names of employees giving representation authorization in favor of the organization. Upon the conclusion of the comparison of records, the agency shall furnish to the parties a tally sheet containing the number of employees in the bargaining unit, the number of employee records examined and the number of employee records counted as valid evidence of representation.

WAC 391-25-420 Unit determination elections. Employees shall not be subjected to examination or cross-examination concerning their views on the configuration of bargaining units. A unit determination election shall be the exclusive method to determine the "desire" of the employees involved.

(1) Where the executive director determines that either of two or more bargaining unit configurations proposed by petitioning or intervening organizations could be appropriate under other criteria, a unit determination election shall be conducted.

(2) Where an organization desires to merge two or more historically separate bargaining units, it may request a unit determination election under this section.

(a) The organization shall file a petition under WAC 391-25-070, indicating under "other relevant facts" that it is seeking a merger of two or more existing bargaining units.

(b) The showing of interest shall indicate support for the merger of units, and shall be evaluated separately in each of the historical bargaining units.

(c) The proposed merged unit must be an appropriate unit under the applicable statute.

(i) If the propriety of the merged bargaining unit is disputed, the executive director shall make a determination following a hearing.

(ii) If the propriety of the merged bargaining unit is stipulated, the executive director or designee shall determine whether the proposed unit is, on its face, an appropriate bargaining unit under the applicable statute.

(d) If the merged unit is found to be appropriate, the agency shall conduct a unit determination election in each of the bargaining units proposed for merger.

(i) If the merger is rejected in any of the historical units, the petition shall be dismissed.

(ii) If the merger is approved in all of the historical units and no motion for intervention has been granted, the executive director shall issue a certification designating the petitioning organization as exclusive bargaining representative of the merged bargaining unit.

(iii) If a motion for intervention has been granted under WAC 391-25-170 or 391-25-190, the agency shall conduct a representation election prior to the issuance of a certification.

WAC 391-25-430 Notice of election. When an election is to be conducted, the agency shall furnish the employer with appropriate notices, and the employer shall post them in conspicuous places on its premises where notices to affected employees are usually posted. The notice shall contain:

(1) The description of the bargaining unit or voting group(s) in which the election is to be conducted.

(2) The deadline for return of mail ballots or the date(s), hours and polling place(s) for an on-site election.

(3) The cut-off date, if any, or other criteria to be applied in establishing eligibility to vote in the election, including that the eligible employees are limited to those who continue
to be employed within the bargaining unit on the day of the tally.

(4) A statement of the purpose of the election and the question to be voted upon or a sample ballot.

Notices of the election shall be posted for at least seven days, and shall remain posted until a tally of ballots has been issued. The day of posting shall be counted, but the day on which the polls are opened for an on-site election shall not be counted.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 41.56.060, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-430, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 96-07-105, § 391-25-430, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/2/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.56.060, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-430, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-430, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-450 Disclaimers. An organization may disclaim a bargaining unit and have its name removed from the ballot by written notice filed and served as required by WAC 391-08-120. If a disclaimer is filed after the issuance of a notice of election, the organization filing the disclaimer shall not seek to be certified in the bargaining unit for a period of at least one year.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-450, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 98-07-105, § 391-25-450, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/7/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.56.060, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-430, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-430, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-470 Mail ballot election procedures—Electioneering—Objectionable conduct. The executive director shall have discretion to conduct elections by mail ballot procedures designed to preserve the secrecy of employee voting. Multiple questions, including unit determination elections, may be submitted to employees at the same time on separate ballots. A notice and ballot materials shall be mailed by the agency to each eligible voter, and no less than fourteen days shall be provided between the date on which ballot materials are mailed to eligible employees and the deadline for return of the ballots.

(1) The following prohibitions apply to assure appropriate conditions for employees to cast their ballots:

(a) The reproduction of any document purporting to suggest, either directly or indirectly, that the agency endorses a particular choice in an election is prohibited.

(b) The use of deceptive campaign practices improperly involving the commission and its processes is prohibited.

(c) The use of forged documents is prohibited.

(d) Coercion or intimidation of eligible voters, or any threat of reprisal or force or promise of benefit to eligible voters, is prohibited.

(e) Conduct in violation of WAC 391-25-140 is prohibited.

(f) Misrepresentations of fact or law are prohibited. To set aside an election, a misrepresentation must:

(i) Be a substantial misrepresentation of fact or law regarding a salient issue;

(ii) Be made by a person having intimate knowledge of the subject matter, so that employees may be expected to attach added significance to the assertion;

(iii) Occurring at a time which prevents others from effectively responding; and

(iv) Reasonably viewed as having had a significant impact on the election, whether a deliberate misrepresentation or not.

(g) Election speeches on the employer's time to massed assemblies of employees are prohibited during the period beginning on the scheduled date for the issuance of ballots to employees and continuing through the tally of ballots. Other electioneering allowed under (a) through (f) of this subsection is permitted during that period.

(2) Each party may be represented by observers of its own choosing at the tally of ballots. Any lists of those who have voted or who have abstained from voting shall be surrendered to the agency at the conclusion of the tally.

(3) Violations of this rule shall be grounds for setting aside an election upon objections properly filed.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 41.56.060 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-470, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 96-07-105, § 391-25-470, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/2/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.56.060 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-470, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.050, 41.56.090 and 41.59.110. 88-12-054 (Order 88-02), § 391-25-470, filed 5/31/88. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-470, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-490 On-site election procedures—Electioneering—Objectionable conduct. The executive director shall have discretion to conduct an election by on-site ballot procedures designed to preserve the secrecy of employee voting, if the circumstances of a particular case indicate that an on-site election would be more efficient or appropriate than a mail ballot election. Multiple questions, including unit determination elections, may be submitted to employees at the same time on separate ballots. Absentee balloting shall not be allowed.

(1) The following prohibitions apply to assure appropriate conditions for employees to cast their ballots.

(a) The reproduction of any document purporting to suggest, either directly or indirectly, that the agency endorses a particular choice in an election is prohibited.

(b) The use of deceptive campaign practices improperly involving the commission and its processes is prohibited.

(c) The use of forged documents is prohibited.

(d) Coercion or intimidation of eligible voters, or any threat of reprisal or force or promise of benefit to eligible voters, is prohibited.

(e) Conduct in violation of WAC 391-25-140 is prohibited.

(f) Misrepresentations of fact or law are prohibited. To set aside an election, a misrepresentation must:

(i) Be a substantial misrepresentation of fact or law regarding a salient issue;

(ii) Be made by a person having intimate knowledge of the subject matter, so that employees may be expected to attach added significance to the assertion;
(iii) Occurring at a time which prevents others from effectively responding; and

(iv) Reasonably viewed as having had a significant impact on the election, whether a deliberate misrepresentation or not.

(g) Election speeches on the employer's time to massed assemblies of employees are prohibited during the period beginning twenty-four hours before the scheduled time for the opening of the polls and continuing through the tally of ballots. Other electioneering allowed under (a) through (f) of this subsection is permitted during that period.

(h) There shall be no electioneering at or about the polling place during the hours of voting.

(2) Each party may be represented by observers of its own choosing, subject to such limitations as the executive director may prescribe. During the hours of voting, no management official having authority over bargaining unit employees nor any officer or paid employee of an organization shall serve as observer. Any lists of those who have voted or who have abstained from voting shall be surrendered to the agency at the conclusion of the tally.

(3) Violations of this rule shall be grounds for setting aside an election upon objections properly filed.

§ WAC 391-25-510 Challenged ballots. Any observer or the election officer may challenge, for good cause, the eligibility of any person seeking to cast a ballot in the election. No person shall be denied the right to cast a challenged ballot. The election officer shall not have authority to resolve challenges, and the ballot of the challenged voter shall be placed in a sealed envelope identifying the voter and the observer or election officer challenging the eligibility of the voter. The ballot shall not be opened until the challenge is resolved. Any party may withdraw a challenge previously made and, unless the eligibility of the voter is challenged by another party or by the election officer, the challenge shall be resolved. If the challenged ballots are insufficient in number to affect the results of the election, they shall be impounded and no ruling shall be made. If the challenged ballots are sufficient in number to affect the results of the election, the election officer shall ascertain the position of each party as to each challenged ballot and shall include the information in his or her report. If challenges raise material questions of fact which cannot be resolved without a hearing, there shall be issued and served on each of the parties a notice of hearing before a hearing officer. The rules relating to the conduct of hearings on petitions shall govern hearings on challenges, except that the scope of the hearing shall be limited to matters relevant to the disposition of the challenged ballots. The executive director shall have authority to rule on all challenges except those made by a party to preserve an objection to a ruling previously made by the executive director as to the eligibility of the challenged voter. If challenges of a type excepted from the authority of the executive director are sufficient in number to affect the results of the election, the matter shall be transferred to the commission for its determination under the provisions of WAC 391-25-670.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.020, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.030, 41.56.060 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-510, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 96-07-105, § 391-25-510, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/20/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 41.56.040. 90-06-072, § 391-25-510, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-510, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-610 Procedure where no objections are filed. If no objections are filed within the time set forth above, and if any challenged ballots are insufficient in number to affect the determination of the question concerning representation, and if no run-off election is to be held, the executive director shall issue a certification having the same force and effect as if issued by the commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.080 and 41.59.090. 01-14-009, § 391-25-610, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.56.060, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-610, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-610, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-25-650 Briefs and written arguments on objections. (1) The due date for any appeal brief which the party filing an objection desires to have considered by the commission shall be fourteen days following the later of:

(a) The issuance of a transcript of a hearing held under WAC 391-25-630(2); or

(b) The filing of objections under WAC 391-25-590 (1)(b).

Any brief shall be filed at the commission’s Olympia office as required by WAC 391-08-120(1), and copies shall be served on all other parties as required by WAC 391-08-120 (3) and (4).

(2) The due date for any responsive brief which other parties desire to have considered by the commission shall be fourteen days following the date on which that party is served with an appeal brief. Any brief shall be filed at the commission’s Olympia office as required by WAC 391-08-120(1), and copies shall be served on all other parties as required by WAC 391-08-120 (3) and (4).

(3) The executive director or designee may extend the due date for an appeal brief or responsive brief. Such requests shall only be considered if made on or before the date the brief is due, and in compliance with WAC 391-08-180. Extensions of time shall not be routine or automatic.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 01-14-009, § 391-25-650, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 00-14-048, § 391-25-650, filed 6/30/00, effective 8/1/00, 98-14-112, § 391-25-650, filed 7/1/98, effective 8/1/98. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.56.060, 41.56.070 and 41.59.070. 90-06-072, § 391-25-650, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 34.04.022, 41.58.050, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-046 (Order 80-5), § 391-25-650, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

[2002 WAC Supp—page 2081]
Chapter 391-35 WAC: Public Employment Relations Commission

WAC 391-35-001 Scope—Contents—Other rules.
This chapter governs proceedings before the public employment relations commission on petitions for clarification of existing bargaining units and contains some well-established unit determination standards in a subchapter of rules beginning at WAC 391-35-300. The provisions of this chapter should be read in conjunction with:

(1) Chapter 10-08 WAC, which contains the model rules of procedure promulgated by the chief administrative law judge to regulate adjudicative proceedings under chapter 34.05 RCW, except:
   (a) WAC 10-08-035, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-35-050;
   (b) WAC 10-08-050, which relates to office of administrative hearings procedures inapplicable to proceedings before the public employment relations commission;
   (c) WAC 10-08-211, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-35-210 and 391-35-250; and
   (d) WAC 10-08-230, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-35-070.

(2) Chapter 391-08 WAC, which contains rules of practice and procedure applicable to all types of proceedings before the public employment relations commission, and which also replaces some provisions of chapter 10-08 WAC.

(3) Chapter 391-25 WAC, which regulates representation proceedings.

(4) Chapter 391-45 WAC, which regulates unfair labor practice proceedings.

(5) Chapter 391-55 WAC, which regulates the resolution of impasses in collective bargaining.

(6) Chapter 391-65 WAC, which regulates grievance arbitration and grievance mediation proceedings.

(7) Chapter 391-95 WAC, which regulates union security nonassociation proceedings.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050. 01-14-09, § 391-35-001, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01; 96-07-105, § 391-35-001, filed 3/20/96, effective 4/20/96. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and chapters 28B.52, 41.56, 41.58, 41.59, 49.08 and 53.18 RCW. 90-06-073, § 391-35-001, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.090, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-047 (Order 80-6), § 391-35-001, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-35-002 Sequence and numbering of rules—Special provisions. This chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is designed to regulate proceedings under a number of different chapters of the Revised Code of Washington. General rules are set forth in sections with numbers divisible by ten. Where a deviation from the general rule is required for conformity with a particular statute, that special provision is set forth in a separate rule, numbered as follows:

(1) Special provisions relating to chapter 41.56 RCW (Public Employees’ Collective Bargaining Act) and to chapter 53.18 RCW (port employees) are set forth in WAC sections numbered one digit greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

(2) Special provisions relating to chapter 41.59 RCW (Educational Employment Relations Act) are set forth in WAC sections numbered two digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

(3) Special provisions relating to chapter 28B.52 RCW (professional negotiations—academic faculties of community college districts) are set forth in WAC sections numbered three digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

(4) Special provisions relating to chapter 49.08 RCW (private sector and other employees) are set forth in WAC sections numbered nine digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 01-14-09, § 391-35-001, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.58.050, 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110 and chapters 28B.52, 41.56, 41.58, 41.59, 49.08 and 53.18 RCW. 90-06-073, § 391-35-002, filed 3/7/90, effective 4/7/90. Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.090, 41.59.110 and 47.64.040. 80-14-047 (Order 80-6), § 391-35-002, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-35-020 Time for filing petition—Limitations on results of proceedings.

TIMELINE OF PETITION

(1) A unit clarification petition may be filed at any time, with regard to:
   (a) Disputes concerning positions which have been newly created by an employer.
   (b) Disputes concerning the allocation of employees or positions claimed by two or more bargaining units.
   (c) Disputes under WAC 391-35-300 concerning a requirement for a professional education certificate.
(d) Disputes under WAC 391-35-310 concerning eligibility for interest arbitration.
(e) Disputes under WAC 391-35-320 concerning status as a confidential employee.
(f) Disputes under WAC 391-35-330 concerning one-person bargaining units.

(2) A unit clarification petition concerning status as a supervisor under WAC 391-35-340, or status as a regular part-time or casual employee under WAC 391-35-350, is subject to the following conditions:

(a) The signing of a collective bargaining agreement will not bar the processing of a petition filed by a party to the agreement, if the petitioner can demonstrate that it put the other party on notice during negotiations that it would contest the inclusion or exclusion of the position or class through a unit clarification proceeding, and it filed the petition prior to signing the current collective bargaining agreement.

(b) Except as provided under subsection (2)(a) of this section, the existence of a valid written and signed collective bargaining agreement will bar the processing of a petition filed by a party to the agreement unless the petitioner can demonstrate, by specific evidence, substantial changed circumstances during the term of the agreement which warrant a modification of the bargaining unit by inclusion or exclusion of a position or class.

LIMITATIONS ON RESULTS OF PROCEEDINGS

(3) Employees or positions may be removed from an existing bargaining unit in a unit clarification proceeding filed within a reasonable time period after a change of circumstances altering the community of interest of the employees or positions.

(4) Employees or positions may be added to an existing bargaining unit in a unit clarification proceeding:

(a) Where a petition is filed within a reasonable time period after a change of circumstances altering the community of interest of the employees or positions; or

(b) Where the existing bargaining unit is the only appropriate unit for the employees or positions.

(5) Except as provided under subsection (4) of this section, a question concerning representation will exist under chapter 391-25 WAC, and it filed the petition prior to filing a unit clarification proceeding:

(a) Where a unit clarification petition is not filed within a reasonable time period after creation of new positions.

(b) Where employees or positions have been excluded from a bargaining unit by agreement of the parties or by a certification, and a unit clarification petition is not filed within a reasonable time period after a change of circumstances.

(c) Where addition of employees or positions to a bargaining unit would create a doubt as to the ongoing majority status of the exclusive bargaining representative.

WAC 391-35-030 Petition in writing—Number of copies—Filing—Service. Each petition for clarification of an existing bargaining unit shall be in writing, and shall be filed at the commission's Olympia office, as required by WAC 391-08-120(1). If the petition is filed other than as a jointly filed petition, the party filing the petition shall serve a copy on the other party to the collective bargaining relationship in which the disagreement arises, as required by WAC 391-08-120(3) and (4).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.040, 41.58.050, 41.59.110 and 47 .64.040. 80-14-047 (Order 80-6), § 391-35-030, filed 9/30/80, effective 11/1/80.]

WAC 391-35-050 Contents of petition. Each petition for clarification of an existing bargaining unit shall contain, in separate numbered paragraphs:

(1) Information identifying the parties and their relationships, including:

(a) The name, address, and telephone number of the employer, and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative;

(b) The name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of the exclusive representative, and the name, address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of its principal representative;

(c) The employer's principal business;

(d) The parties' contractual relationship, indicating that:

(i) The parties have never had a contract; or

(ii) A copy of the current (or most recent) collective bargaining agreement is attached;

(e) The status of negotiations between the parties, indicating that:

(i) The parties' contract is closed; or

(ii) The parties are currently in contract negotiations;

(f) The description of the existing bargaining unit, specifying inclusions and exclusions;

(g) The number of employees in the bargaining unit; and

(h) The history of the bargaining unit, including at least the approximate date of its creation.

(2) Identification of the position(s), classification(s) or group(s) at issue, the number of employees in each position, classification or group, the present bargaining unit inclusion or exclusion status of each position, classification or group, identification of the party proposing that the present status be changed, and the reason for the proposed change.

(3) Identification of other interested organizations, including names and addresses of any other employee organizations claiming to represent any employees affected by the proposed clarification(s), and brief description(s) of the contracts, if any, covering such employees.

(4) Any other relevant facts.

(5) The name, signature(s) and, if any, title(s) of the representative(s) of the petitioner(s), and the date of the signature.

[2002 WAC Supp—page 2083]
WAC 391-35-080 Repealed. See Disposition Table at beginning of this chapter.

WAC 391-35-090 Notice of hearing. If it appears to the executive director or designee that a disagreement exists which could be the basis for issuing an order clarifying the bargaining unit or units, a hearing officer shall issue a notice of hearing and have it served on the parties. A notice of hearing may be amended or withdrawn before the close of the hearing.

WAC 391-35-099 Special provision—Private sector and other employees. The commission lacks authority to proceed in unit clarification proceedings under chapter 49.08 RCW absent the agreement of all parties. The executive director shall not proceed in such matters unless a written agreement is filed by the parties to submit their dispute for arbitration by the commission under chapter 49.08 RCW and these rules.

WAC 391-35-110 Coordination of proceedings. (1) If a petition for clarification under this chapter is pending at the same time as a petition under chapter 391-25 WAC involving all or any part of the same bargaining unit, the proceedings under this chapter shall be suspended, and all issues concerning the description of the bargaining unit shall be resolved in the proceedings under chapter 391-25 WAC.

(2) A unit clarification proceeding may control or be controlled by an unfair labor practice proceeding. If a petition for clarification under this chapter is pending at the same time as a complaint under chapter 391-45 WAC involving all or any part of the same bargaining unit, the executive director or designee shall have discretion to withhold processing of one of the related proceedings pending the outcome of the other related proceeding.

WAC 391-35-170 Hearings—Reopening of hearing—Briefs. (1) Hearings shall be public, except where a protective order is issued under WAC 10-08-200(7), and shall be limited to matters concerning the clarification of the existing bargaining unit.

(a) The parties shall be responsible for the presentation of their cases.

(b) The hearing officer shall ascertain the respective positions of the parties, to obtain a full and complete factual record upon which the agency may discharge its responsibilities under the applicable statute. The hearing officer has authority, under WAC 10-08-200 (8) and (9), to ask questions, call witnesses, and explore matters not raised or only partially raised by the parties.

(2) Once a hearing has been declared closed, it may be reopened only upon the timely motion of a party upon discovery of new evidence which could not with reasonable diligence have been discovered and produced at the hearing.

(3) The hearing officer may allow or direct the filing of briefs as to any or all of the issues in a case. Arrangements and due dates for briefs shall be established by the hearing officer. Any brief shall be filed with the hearing officer as required by WAC 391-08-120(1), and copies shall be served on all other parties to the proceeding as required by WAC 391-08-120 (3) and (4).

WAC 391-35-190 Proceedings before the executive director. (1) The executive director may proceed upon the record, after submission of briefs or after hearing, as may be appropriate. The executive director shall determine the status of each position, classification or group of employees over which there is a disagreement and issue an order clarifying bargaining unit, dismiss the petition or make other disposition of the matter.

(2) Where the executive director determines that employee eligibility issues exist, the executive director may delegate authority to the hearing officer to decide those issues.

(3) Unless appealed to the commission under WAC 391-35-210, a decision issued under this section shall be the final order of the agency, with the same force and effect as if issued by the commission.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 34.05.437, 41.56.060 and 41.59.080. 01-14-09, § 391-35-110, filed 9/30/08, effective 11/1/08.]
WAC 391-35-320 Exclusion of confidential employees. Confidential employees excluded from all collective bargaining rights shall be limited to:

(1) Any person who participates directly on behalf of an employer in the formulation of labor relations policy, the preparation for or conduct of collective bargaining, or the administration of collective bargaining agreements, except that the role of such person is not merely routine or clerical in nature but calls for the consistent exercise of independent judgment; and

(2) Any person who assists and acts in a confidential capacity to such person.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.030(2) and 41.59.020(d)(c)(i) and (ii). 01-14-009, § 391-35-320, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01.]

WAC 391-35-330 One-person bargaining unit inappropriate. A bargaining unit cannot be considered appropriate if it includes only one employee.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.060 and 41.59.080. 01-14-009, § 391-35-330, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01.]

WAC 391-35-340 Unit placement of supervisors—Bargaining rights of supervisors. (1) It shall be presumptively appropriate to exclude persons who exercise authority on behalf of the employer over subordinate employees (usually termed "supervisors") from bargaining units containing their rank-and-file subordinates, in order to avoid a potential for conflicts of interest which would otherwise exist in a combined bargaining unit.

(2) It shall be presumptively appropriate to include persons who exercise authority on behalf of the employer over subordinate employees (usually termed "supervisors") in separate bargaining units for the purposes of collective bargaining.

(3) The presumptions set forth in this section shall be subject to modification by adjudication.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.060 and 41.59.080. 01-14-009, § 391-35-340, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01.]

WAC 391-35-342 Special provision—Educational employees. Supervisors, principals and assistant principals acquire collective bargaining rights under chapter 41.59 RCW only by means of an election conducted under RCW 41.59.080.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.59.080. 01-14-009, § 391-35-342, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01.]

WAC 391-35-343 Special provision—Academic employees. Administrators acquire collective bargaining rights under chapter 28B.52 RCW only by means of an election conducted under RCW 28B.52.020(3).

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 28B.52.020(3). 01-14-009, § 391-35-343, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01.]

WAC 391-35-350 Unit placement of regular part-time employees—Exclusion of casual and temporary employees. (1) It shall be presumptively appropriate to include regular part-time employees in the same bargaining unit with full-time employees performing similar work, in order to avoid a potential for conflicting work jurisdiction claims which would otherwise exist in separate units. Employees who, during the previous twelve months, have worked more than one-sixth of the time normally worked by full-time employees, and who remain available for work on the same basis, shall be presumed to be regular part-time employees. For employees of school districts and educational institutions, the term "time normally worked by full-time employees" shall be based on the number of days in the normal academic year.

(2) It shall be presumptively appropriate to exclude casual and temporary employees from bargaining units.

(a) Casual employees who have not worked a sufficient amount of time to qualify as regular part-time employees are presumed to have had a series of separate and terminated employment relationships, so that they lack an expectation of continued employment and a community of interest with full-time and regular part-time employees.

(b) Temporary employees who have not worked a sufficient amount of time to qualify as regular part-time employees are presumed to lack an expectation of continued employment and a community of interest with full-time and regular part-time employees.

(3) The presumptions set forth in this section shall be subject to modification by adjudication.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 28B.52.080, 41.56.090, 41.59.110, 41.58.050, 41.56.060 and 41.59.080. 01-14-009, § 391-35-350, filed 6/22/01, effective 8/1/01.]

Chapter 391-45 WAC

UNFAIR LABOR PRACTICE CASE RULES

WAC 391-45-001 Scope—Contents—Other rules.

WAC 391-45-002 Sequence and numbering of rules—Special provisions.

WAC 391-45-001 Scope—Contents—Other rules.

This chapter governs proceedings before the public employment relations commission on complaints charging unfair labor practices. The provisions of this chapter should be read in conjunction with:

(1) Chapter 10-08 WAC, which contains the model rules of procedure promulgated by the chief administrative law judge to regulate adjudicative proceedings under chapter 34.05 RCW, except:

(a) WAC 10-08-035, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-45-050;

(b) WAC 10-08-050, which relates to office of administrative hearings procedures inapplicable to proceedings before the public employment relations commission;

(c) WAC 10-08-211, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-45-350 and 391-45-390; and

(d) WAC 10-08-230, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-45-070, 391-45-090, and 391-45-260.

(2) Chapter 391-08 WAC, which contains rules of practice and procedure applicable to all types of proceedings.

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before the public employment relations commission, and which also replaces some provisions of chapter 10-08 WAC.

(3) Chapter 391-25 WAC, which regulates representation proceedings.

(4) Chapter 391-35 WAC, which regulates unit clarification proceedings and contains some well-established unit determination standards in a subchapter of rules beginning at WAC 391-35-300.

(5) Chapter 391-55 WAC, which regulates the resolution of impasses in collective bargaining.

(6) Chapter 391-65 WAC, which regulates grievance arbitration and grievance mediation proceedings.

(7) Chapter 391-95 WAC, which regulates union security nonassociation proceedings.

WAC 391-45-002 Sequence and numbering of rules—Special provisions. This chapter of the Washington Administrative Code is designed to regulate proceedings under a number of different chapters of the Revised Code of Washington. General rules are set forth in sections with numbers divisible by ten. Where a deviation from the general rule is required for conformity with a particular statute, that special provision is set forth in a separate rule numbered as follows:

(1) Special provisions relating to chapter 41.59 RCW (Educational Employment Relations Act) are set forth in WAC sections numbered two digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

(2) Special provisions relating to chapter 49.08 RCW (Private sector and other employees) are set forth in WAC sections numbered nine digits greater than the general rule on that subject matter.

WAC 391-55 WAC IMPASSE RESOLUTION RULES

WAC 391-55-001 Scope—Contents—Other rules.

This chapter governs proceedings before the public employment relations commission relating to the resolution of impasses occurring in collective bargaining. The provisions of this chapter should be read in conjunction with the provisions of:

(1) Chapter 391-08 WAC, which contains rules of practice and procedure applicable to all types of proceedings before the public employment relations commission, and which also replaces some provisions of chapter 10-08 WAC.

(2) Chapter 391-25 WAC, which regulates representation proceedings.

(3) Chapter 391-35 WAC, which regulates unit clarification proceedings and contains some well-established unit determination standards in a subchapter of rules beginning at WAC 391-35-300.

(4) Chapter 391-45 WAC, which regulates unfair labor practice proceedings.

(5) Chapter 391-65 WAC, which regulates strike, lockout, or other similar actions.

(6) Chapter 391-95 WAC, which regulates union security nonassociation proceedings.
Title 392 WAC
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION, SUPERINTENDENT OF

Chapters
392-121  Finance—General apportionment.
392-122  Finance—Categorical apportionment.

Union Security Dispute Rules
Chapter 391-95 WAC
UNION SECURITY DISPUTE RULES

WAC 391-95-001  Scope—Contents—Other rules.

WAC 391-95-001 Scope—Contents—Other rules. This chapter governs proceedings before the public employment relations commission on disputes concerning the right of nonassociation under the union security provisions of certain statutes. The provisions of this chapter should be read in conjunction with:

(1) Chapter 391-08 WAC, which contains the model rules of procedure promulgated by the chief administrative law judge to regulate adjudicative proceedings under chapter 34.05 RCW, except:
   (a) WAC 391-08-035, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-95-110;
   (b) WAC 391-08-050, which relates to office of administrative hearings procedures inapplicable to proceedings before the public employment relations commission;
   (c) WAC 391-08-211, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-95-270 and 391-95-290; and
   (d) WAC 391-08-230, which is replaced by detailed requirements in WAC 391-95-170.

(2) Chapter 391-08 WAC, which contains rules of practice and procedure applicable to all types of proceedings before the public employment relations commission, and which also replaces some provisions of chapter 10-08 WAC.

(3) Chapter 391-25 WAC, which regulates representation proceedings.

(4) Chapter 391-35 WAC, which regulates unit clarification proceedings and contains some well-established unit determination standards in a subchapter of rules beginning at WAC 391-35-300.

(5) Chapter 391-45 WAC, which regulates unfair labor practice proceedings.

(6) Chapter 391-55 WAC, which regulates the resolution of impasses in collective bargaining.

(7) Chapter 391-65 WAC, which regulates grievance arbitration and grievance mediation proceedings.


