Title 300 WAC
LIBRARIANS, CERTIFICATION OF

Chapters
300-12 Certification of librarians.

Chapter 300-12 WAC
CERTIFICATION OF LIBRARIANS

WAC 300-12-010 Purposes of certification. The purposes of certification of librarians are to:
(1) Secure qualified librarians by setting definite compulsory standards;
(2) Maintain standards within the profession;
(3) Assure that employers can secure competent personnel to deliver library and information services to users.

WAC 300-12-015 Eligibility for certification. The Washington state library commission shall issue librarians' certificates:
(1) Without examination to applicants who are graduates of library/information science schools accredited by the American Library Association.
(2) By examination to:
   Applicants who present domestic or foreign college or university transcripts from accredited institutions showing successful completion of a minimum of thirty-six quarter credits or twenty-four semester credits in the professional curriculum. This curriculum shall be in library/information sciences or a closely related program — including, but not limited to, coursework in such areas as reference and bibliography, cataloging and classification, and administration — equivalent to masters degree level work. Applications must include favorable references from employers or instructors — must be library related — indicating the applicant's ability to initiate and carry out effective programs of library/information science service.

WAC 300-12-020 Equivalency policy. To test for "attainments and abilities equivalent to those of a library/information science school graduate," the examination process shall reflect the principles of a basic professional curriculum in librarianship. The applicant will be expected to understand the principles and methods of:
(1) Selecting, acquiring, and organizing library materials by means of cataloging and classification;
(2) Reference, bibliography, and public services to various groups;
(3) Administration.

The applicant should be able to perform these and other operations effectively; should be familiar with the literature of the broad subject fields and the sources of bibliographical and factual information; should have an understanding of government, social institutions and the role of the library in a democratic society; and should be able to initiate and carry out suitable programs of library/information science service.

Passing the examination is not to be construed as having earned a masters degree in library/information science.

There shall be no reciprocity with other states certifying librarians.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 27.04.030(10) as amended in 1987. 87-20-071 (Order 87-03), § 300-12-010, filed 10/6/87; Rules (part), filed 4/13/66; Rules (part), filed 3/16/60.]