

**WAC 182-16-3030 Authority of the hearing officer.** (1) A hearing officer must hear and decide the issues based on the evidence and oral or written arguments presented during a formal administrative hearing and admitted into the record.

(2) A hearing officer has no inherent or common law powers, and is limited to those powers granted by the state constitution, statutes, or rules.

(3) A hearing officer may not decide that a rule is invalid or unenforceable. If the validity of a rule is raised during a formal administrative hearing, the hearing officer may allow argument only to preserve the record for judicial review.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 20-16-062 (Admin #2020-03), § 182-16-3030, filed 7/28/20, effective 1/1/21. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021, 41.05.160, and PEBB policy resolutions. WSR 19-17-073 (Admin #2019-01), § 182-16-3030, filed 8/20/19, effective 1/1/20. Statutory Authority: RCW 41.05.021 and 41.05.160. WSR 18-22-033 (Admin #2018-03), § 182-16-3030, filed 10/29/18, effective 1/1/19.]