

**WAC 246-810-045 Requirements for client fees paid in advance.**

(1) The practice of collecting fees in advance and refund policies must be included in the disclosure statement to the client before any funds are collected.

(2) Counselors who collect fees in advance of the service provided must separate such funds from operating/expense funds. Failure to properly account for such funds may be a violation of the Securities Act, RCW 21.20.005. The counselor may not spend the funds until the service is provided. Any funds left in the account, for services not provided must be returned to the client within thirty days of the request.

(3) Room rental fees or similar expenses, for example, as relating to group therapy, are not considered fees paid in advance.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 18.19.050 and chapter 18.19 RCW. WSR 09-15-041, § 246-810-045, filed 7/8/09, effective 7/8/09. Statutory Authority: RCW 18.19.050(1). WSR 97-17-113, § 246-810-045, filed 8/20/97, effective 9/20/97.]