

**WAC 296-23A-0500 When does a case qualify for high outlier status?** Outlier payments apply only to diagnosis-related-group (DRG) reimbursed cases with unusually high or low costs. Outlier status does not apply to cases paid using a percent of allowed charges (POAC) factor or per diem rates.

A case is considered a high cost outlier if the costs for the case exceed the outlier threshold for the assigned diagnosis-related-group. The costs for a case are determined by multiplying the allowed charges for the case by the hospital specific POAC factor. The threshold used to define a high outlier case is the greater of a dollar threshold of twelve thousand dollars or two standard deviations above the statewide average cost for each DRG paid by the department.

The dollar threshold may be adjusted annually for inflation or other factors as determined by the department. The standard deviations for DRGs will be computed from all relevant cases in the historical database, excluding statistical outliers.

[Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.020, 51.04.030. WSR 00-24-066, § 296-23A-0500, filed 12/1/00, effective 1/1/01. Statutory Authority: RCW 51.04.020, 51.04.030 and 51.36.080. WSR 97-06-066, § 296-23A-0500, filed 2/28/97, effective 4/1/97.]