

WAC 388-97-4480 Criteria for imposing optional remedies. (1)

The criteria set forth in this section implement the requirements under RCW 18.51.060(8). The criteria do not replace the standards for imposition of mandatory remedies under RCW 18.51.060 (3) and (5), or for the imposition of mandatory remedies in accordance with WAC 388-97-4460 (1), (2) and (3).

(2) The department must consider the imposition of one or more optional remedy(ies) when the nursing home has:

(a) A history of being unable to sustain compliance;

(b) One or more deficiencies on one inspection at severity level 2 or higher as described in WAC 388-97-4500;

(c) Been unable to provide an acceptable plan of correction after receiving assistance from the department about necessary revisions;

(d) One or more deficiencies cited under general administration and/or nursing services;

(e) One or more deficiencies related to retaliation against a resident or an employee for whistle blower activity under RCW 18.51.220, 74.34.180 or 74.39A.060 and WAC 388-97-1820;

(f) One or more deficiencies related to discrimination against a medicare or medicaid client under RCW 74.42.055, and Titles XVIII and XIX of the Social Security Act and medicare and medicaid regulations; or

(g) Willfully interfered with the performance of official duties by a long-term care ombuds.

(3) The department, in its sole discretion, may consider other relevant factors when determining what optional remedy or remedies to impose in particular circumstances.

(4) When the department imposes an optional remedy or remedies, the department will select more severe penalties for nursing homes that have deficiency(ies) that are:

(a) Uncorrected upon revisit;

(b) Recurring (repeated);

(c) Pervasive; or

(d) Present a threat to the health, safety, or welfare of the residents.

(5) The department will consider the severity and scope of cited deficiencies in accordance with WAC 388-97-4500 when selecting optional remedy(ies). Such consideration will not limit the department's discretion to impose a remedy for a deficiency at a low level severity and scope.

[Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.51 and 74.42 RCW. WSR 14-12-040, § 388-97-4480, filed 5/29/14, effective 6/29/14. Statutory Authority: Chapters 18.51 and 74.42 RCW and 42 C.F.R. 489.52. WSR 08-20-062, § 388-97-4480, filed 9/24/08, effective 11/1/08.]