

**WSR 15-22-019**  
**EXPEDITED RULES**  
**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

[Filed October 26, 2015, 9:30 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 458-20-210 (Rule 210) Sales of tangible personal property for farming—Sales of agricultural products by farmers. Rule 210 explains the application of business and occupation, retail sales, and use taxes to the sale and/or use of feed, seed, fertilizer, spray materials, and other tangible personal property for farming. The rule also explains the application of the same taxes to the sales of products by farmers.

NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Gayle Carlson, Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 47453, Olympia, WA 98504-7453, e-mail [GayleC@dor.wa.gov](mailto:GayleC@dor.wa.gov), AND RECEIVED BY January 4, 2016.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: The department is proposing revisions to WAC 458-20-210 to include:

- Eligible apiarists in the definition of farmer (subsection (2));
- Honey bee products as an agricultural product (subsection (3));
- Definition of who is an eligible apiarist (subsection (4));
- Definition of what are honey bee products (subsection (5));
- Expanded B&O tax exemption on wholesale sales to include bee pollination services to farmers (subsection (8));
- Language pertaining to the requirements of new tax preferences (RCW 82.32.808);
- Updated expiration date for RCW 82.04.4266 and 82.04.4268 to July 1, 2025;
- An exemption certificate for RCW 82.08.900 and 82.12.900 (Anaerobic digesters) will no longer be issued by the department. Persons claiming exemptions may complete a *Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions* found on the department's web site.

And the removal of:

- The subsection "*Machinery, equipment, and structures used to reduce emissions from field burning*" as exemptions provided by RCW 82.08.840 and 82.12.840 expired in 2011;
- The department issuing an exemption certificate for RCW 82.08.890 and 82.12.890 upon receipt of

application. (Effective June 12, 2014, persons claiming exemptions may complete and use a *Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions* in lieu of the department issued certificate.)

Copies of draft rules are available for viewing and printing on our web site at Rules Agenda.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: Chapter 6, Laws of 2015 (ESSB 6057 Part XI) and chapter 86, Laws of 2015 (SSB 5275 section 202).

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 82.32.300 and 82.01.060(2).

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Department of revenue, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Gayle Carlson, 1025 Union Avenue S.E., Suite #544, Olympia, WA, (360) 534-1576; Implementation and Enforcement: Marcus Glasper, 1025 Union Avenue S.E., Suite #500, Olympia, WA, (360) 534-1615.

October 26, 2015

Kevin Dixon

Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 15-01-007, filed 12/4/14, effective 1/4/15)

**WAC 458-20-210 Sales of tangible personal property for farming—Sales of agricultural products by farmers.**

(1) **Introduction.** This rule explains the application of business and occupation (B&O), retail sales, and use taxes to the sale and/or use of feed, seed, fertilizer, spray materials, and other tangible personal property for farming. This rule also explains the application of B&O, retail sales, and litter taxes to the sale of agricultural products by farmers. Farmers should refer to WAC 458-20-101 (Tax registration and tax reporting) to determine whether they must obtain a tax registration endorsement or a temporary registration certificate from the department of revenue (department).

(a) **Examples.** This rule contains examples (~~which~~) that identify a number of facts and then state a conclusion. These examples should be used only as a general guide. The tax results of other situations must be determined after a review of all facts and circumstances.

(b) **Other rules that may be relevant.** Farmers and persons making sales to farmers may also want to refer to rules in the following list for additional information:

(i) WAC 458-20-178(=) Use tax and the use of tangible personal property;

(ii) WAC 458-20-209(=) Farming for hire and horticultural services performed for farmers;

(iii) WAC 458-20-222(=) Veterinarians;

(iv) WAC 458-20-239(=) Sales to nonresidents of farm machinery or implements, and related services; (~~and~~)

(v) WAC 458-20-243 Litter tax; and

(vi) WAC 458-20-262(=) Retail sales and use tax exemptions for agricultural employee housing.

(2) **Who is a farmer?** A "farmer" is any person engaged in the business of growing, raising, or producing, ~~((upon))~~ on the person's own lands or on the lands in which the person has a present right of possession, any agricultural product to be sold. Effective July 1, 2015, a "farmer" also includes eligible apiarists that grow, raise, or produce honey bee products for sale, or provide bee pollination services. A "farmer" does not include a person growing, raising, or producing agricultural products for the person's own consumption; a person selling any animal or substance obtained therefrom in connection with the person's business of operating a stockyard, slaughterhouse, or packing house; or a person in respect to the business of taking, cultivating, or raising timber. RCW 82.04.213.

(3) **What is an agricultural product?** An "agricultural product" is any product of plant cultivation or animal husbandry including, but not limited to: A product of horticulture, grain cultivation, vermiculture, viticulture, or aquaculture as defined in RCW 15.85.020; plantation Christmas trees; short-rotation hardwoods as defined in RCW 84.33.035; turf; or any animal, including, but not limited to, an animal that is a private sector cultured aquatic product as defined in RCW 15.85.020, a bird, an insect, or the substances obtained from such animals. Effective July 1, 2015, "agricultural product" includes honey bee products. An "agricultural product" does not include animals defined under RCW 16.70.020 as "pet animals." Effective June 12, 2014, ~~((chapter 140, (SB 6505), Laws of 2014, included))~~ RCW 82.04.213 excludes marijuana ((as not an)) from the definition of "agricultural product." Marijuana is any product with a THC concentration greater than .03 percent. RCW 82.04.213.

(4) **Who is an eligible apiarist?** An "eligible apiarist" is a person who owns or keeps one or more bee colonies and who grows, raises, or produces honey bee products for sale at wholesale and is registered under RCW 15.60.021.

(5) **What are honey bee products?** "Honey bee products" are queen honey bees, packaged honey bees, honey, pollen, bees wax, propolis, or other substances obtained from honey bees. "Honey bee products" do not include manufactured substances or articles.

(6) **What is marijuana?** "Marijuana" is any product with a THC concentration greater than .03 percent. For additional information on marijuana see RCW 69.50.101.

~~((5))~~ (7) **Sales to farmers.** Persons making sales of tangible personal property to farmers are generally subject to wholesaling or retailing B&O tax, as the case may be, on the gross proceeds of sales. Sales of some services performed for farmers, such as installing or repairing tangible personal property, are retail sales and subject to retailing B&O tax on the gross proceeds of such sales. Persons making retail sales must collect retail sales tax from the buyer, unless the sale is specifically exempt by law. Refer to subsection ~~((7))~~ (9) of this rule for information about specific sales tax exemptions available for sales to farmers.

(a) **Documenting wholesale sales.** A seller must take and retain from the buyer a copy of the buyer's reseller permit, or a completed "Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions" to document the wholesale nature of any transaction.

(b) **Buyer's responsibility when the seller does not collect retail sales tax on a retail sale.** If the seller does not collect retail sales tax on a retail sale, the buyer must pay the retail sales tax (commonly referred to as "deferred sales tax") or use tax directly to the department, unless the sale is specifically exempt by law. The excise tax return does not have a separate line for reporting deferred sales tax. Consequently, deferred sales tax liability should be reported on the use tax line of the buyer's excise tax return. If a deferred sales tax or use tax liability is incurred by a farmer who is not required to obtain a tax registration endorsement from the department ~~((see WAC 458-20-101))~~, the farmer must report the tax on a "Consumer Use Tax Return" and remit the appropriate tax to the department. ~~((Refer to WAC 458-20-178 (Use tax))~~) For detailed information regarding use tax see WAC 458-20-178.

The Consumer Use Tax Return may be obtained by calling the department's telephone information center at 1-800-647-7706. The return may also be obtained from the department's web site at ~~((:))~~ dor.wa.gov.

(c) **Feed, seed, seedlings, fertilizer, spray materials, and agents for enhanced pollination.** Sales to farmers of feed, seed, seedlings, fertilizer, spray materials, and agents for enhanced pollination, including insects such as bees, to be used for the purpose of producing an agricultural product, whether for wholesale or retail sale, are wholesale sales.

However, when these items are sold to consumers for purposes other than producing agricultural products for sale, the sales are retail sales. For example, sales of feed to riding clubs, racetrack operators, boarders, or similar persons who do not resell the feed at a specific charge are retail sales. Sales of feed for feeding pets or work animals, or for raising animals for the purpose of producing agricultural products for personal consumption are also retail sales. Sales of seed, fertilizer, and spray materials for use on lawns and gardens, or for any other personal use, are likewise retail sales.

(i) **What is feed?** "Feed" is any substance used as food to sustain or improve animals, birds, fish, bees, or other insects, including whole and processed grains or mixtures thereof, hay and forages or meals made therefrom, mill feeds and feeding concentrates, stock salt, hay salt, sugar, pollen patties, bone meal, fish meal, cod liver oil, double purpose limestone grit, oyster shell, and other similar substances. Food additives that are given for their beneficial growth or weight effects are "feed."

Hormones or similar products that do not make a direct nutritional or energy contribution to the body are not "feed," nor are products used as medicines.

(ii) **What is seed?** "Seed" is the propagative portions of plants commonly used for seeding or planting whether true seed, bulbs, plants, seed-like fruits, seedlings, or tubers. For purposes of this rule, "seed" does not include seeds or propagative portions of plants used to grow marijuana.

(iii) **What is fertilizer?** "Fertilizer" is any substance containing one or more recognized plant nutrients and is used for its plant nutrient content and/or is designated for use in promoting plant growth. "Fertilizer" includes limes, gypsum, and manipulated animal and vegetable manures. There is no requirement that fertilizers be applied directly to the soil.

(iv) **What are spray materials?** "Spray materials" are any substance or mixture of substances in liquid, powder, granular, dry flowable, or gaseous form, which is intended to prevent, destroy, control, repel, or mitigate any insect, rodent, nematode, mite, mollusk, fungus, weed, and any other form of plant or animal life normally considered to be a pest. The term includes treated materials, such as grains, that are intended to destroy, control, or repel such pests. "Spray materials" also include substances that act as plant regulators, defoliants, desiccants, or spray adjuvants.

(v) **Examples.**

(A) **Example 1.** Sue grows vegetables for retail sale at a local market. Sue purchases fertilizers and spray materials that she applies to the vegetable plants. She also purchases feed for poultry that she raises to produce eggs for her personal consumption. Because the vegetables are an agricultural product produced for sale, retail sales tax does not apply to Sue's purchases of fertilizers and spray materials, provided she gives the seller a copy of her reseller permit, or a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions. Retail sales tax applies to her purchases of poultry feed, as the poultry is raised to produce eggs for Sue's personal consumption.

(B) **Example 2.** WG Vineyards (WG) grows grapes that it uses to manufacture wine for sale. WG purchases pesticides and fertilizers that are applied to its vineyards. WG may purchase these pesticides and fertilizers at wholesale, provided WG gives the seller a copy of their reseller permit, or a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions.

(C) **Example 3.** Seed Co. contracts with farmers to raise seed. Seed Co. provides the seed and agrees to purchase the crop if it meets specified standards. The contracts provide that ownership of the crop is retained by Seed Co., and the risk of crop loss is borne by the farmers. The farmers must pay for the seed whether or not the crop meets the specified standard. The transfer of the possession of the seed to each farmer is a wholesale sale, provided Seed Co. obtains a copy of their reseller permit, or a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions from that farmer.

(d) **Chemical sprays or washes.** Sales of chemical sprays or washes, whether to farmers or other persons, for the purpose of post-harvest treatment of fruit for the prevention of scald, fungus, mold, or decay are wholesale sales.

(e) **Farming equipment.** Sales to farmers of farming equipment such as machinery, machinery parts and repair, tools, and cleaning materials are retail sales and subject to retailing B&O and retail sales taxes, unless specifically exempt by law. Refer to subsections ~~((5)(i) and)~~ (7)(i) and (9) of this rule for information about sales tax exemptions available to farmers.

(f) **Packing materials and containers.** Sales of packing materials and containers, or tangible personal property that will become part of a container, to a farmer who will sell the property to be contained therein are wholesale sales, provided the packing materials and containers are not put to intervening use by the farmer. Thus, sales to farmers of binder twine for binding bales of hay that will be sold or wrappers for fruit and vegetables to be sold are subject to wholesaling B&O

tax. However, sales of packing materials and containers to a farmer who will use the items as a consumer are retail sales and subject to retailing B&O and retail sales taxes. Thus, sales of binder twine to a farmer for binding bales of hay that will be used to feed the farmer's livestock are retail sales.

(g) **Purchases for dual purposes.** A buyer normally engaged in both consuming and reselling certain types of tangible personal property (~~that~~) who is unable to determine at the time of purchase whether the particular property purchased will be consumed or resold must purchase according to the general nature of his or her business. RCW 82.08.130. If the buyer principally consumes the articles in question, the buyer should not give a copy of its reseller permit for any part of the purchase. If the buyer principally resells the articles, the buyer may provide a copy of its reseller permit for the entire purchase. For the purposes of this subsection, the term "principally" means greater than fifty percent.

If a buyer makes a purchase for dual purposes and does not give a copy of their reseller permit for any of the purchase and thereafter resells some of the articles purchased, the buyer may claim a "taxable amount for tax paid at source" deduction. ~~((Refer to WAC 458-20-102 (Reseller permits)))~~ For additional information regarding purchases for dual purposes and the "taxable amount for tax paid at source" deduction see WAC 458-20-102.

(i) **Potential deferred sales tax liability.** If the buyer gives a copy of its reseller permit for all purchases and thereafter consumes some of the articles purchased, the buyer is liable for deferred sales tax and must remit the tax directly to the department. Refer to (b) of this subsection, WAC 458-20-102 and 458-20-178 for more information regarding deferred sales tax and use tax.

(ii) **Example 4.** A farmer purchases binder twine for binding bales of hay. Some of the hay will be sold and some will be used to feed the farmer's livestock. More than fifty percent of the binder twine is used for binding bales of hay that will be sold. Because the farmer principally uses the binder twine for binding bales of hay that will be sold, the farmer may provide a copy of their reseller permit, or a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions to the seller for the entire purchase. The farmer is liable for deferred sales tax on the binder twine used for binding bales of hay that are used to feed the farmer's livestock and must remit the tax directly to the department.

(h) **"Fruit bin rentals" by fruit packers.** Fruit packers often itemize their charges to farmers for various services related to the packing and storage of fruit. An example is a charge for the bins (~~which~~) that the packer uses in the receiving, sorting, inspecting, and storing of fruit (commonly referred to as "bin rentals"). The packer delivers the bins to the grower, who fills them with fruit for eventual storage in the packer's warehouse. Charges by fruit packers to farmers for such bin rentals do not constitute the rental of tangible personal property to the farmer where the bins are under the control of the packer for use in the receiving, sorting, inspecting, and storing of fruit. These charges are income to the packer related to the receipt or storage of fruit. The packer, as the consumer of the bins, is subject to retail sales or use tax on the purchase or use of the bins. ~~((Refer to WAC 458-20-214 (Cooperative marketing associations and independent dealers~~

acting as agents of others with respect to the sale of fruit and produce) for more)) For information regarding the taxability of fruit packing by cooperative marketing associations and independent dealers acting as agents for others in the sales of fruit and produce see WAC 458-20-214.

(i) **Machinery and equipment used directly in a manufacturing operation.** Machinery and equipment used directly in a manufacturing operation by a manufacturer or processor for hire is exempt from sales and use taxes provided that all requirements for the exemptions are met. RCW 82.08.02565 and 82.12.02565. These exemptions are commonly referred to as the M&E exemption. Farmers who use agricultural products that they have grown, raised, or produced as ingredients in a manufacturing process may be entitled to the M&E exemption on the acquisition of machinery and equipment used directly in their manufacturing operation. ~~((Refer to WAC 458-20-13601 (Manufacturers and processors for hire—Sales and use tax exemption for machinery and equipment)))~~ For more information ((regarding)) on the M&E exemption see WAC 458-20-13601.

~~((6))~~ (8) **Sales by farmers.** Farmers are not subject to B&O tax on wholesale sales of agricultural products. Effective July 1, 2015, bee pollination services provided to farmers by eligible apiarists also qualify for the exemption provided by RCW 82.04.330. Farmers who manufacture products using agricultural products that they have grown, raised, or produced should refer to (b) of this subsection for tax-reporting information.

Farmers are subject to retailing B&O tax on retail sales of agricultural products and retailing or wholesaling B&O tax on sales of nonagricultural products, as the case may be, unless specifically exempt by law. Also, B&O tax applies to sales of agricultural products that the seller has not grown, raised, or produced on the seller's own land or on land in which the seller has a present right of possession, whether these products are sold at wholesale or retail. Likewise, B&O tax applies to sales of animals or substances derived from animals in connection with the business of operating a stockyard, slaughterhouse, or packing house. Farmers may be eligible to claim a small business B&O tax credit if the amount of B&O tax liability in a reporting period is under a certain amount. ~~((Refer to WAC 458-20-104 (Small business tax relief based on income of business)))~~ For more information about ((this)) the small business B&O tax credit see WAC 458-20-104.

(a) **Litter tax.** The gross proceeds of sales of certain products, including food for human or pet consumption, are subject to litter tax. RCW 82.19.020. Litter tax does not apply to sales of agricultural products that are exempt from B&O tax under RCW 82.04.330. RCW 82.19.050. Thus, farmers are not subject to litter tax on wholesale sales of agricultural products but are liable for litter tax on the gross proceeds of retail sales of agricultural products that constitute food for human or pet consumption. ~~((Also))~~ In addition, farmers that manufacture products for use and consumption within this state (e.g., a farmer who produces wine from grapes that the farmer has grown) may be liable for litter tax measured by the value of the products manufactured. ~~((Refer to chapter 82.19 RCW and WAC 458-20-243 (Litter tax)))~~ For more informa-

tion about the litter tax see chapter 82.19 RCW and WAC 458-20-243.

**Example 5.** RD Orchards (RD) grows apples at its orchards. Most apples are sold at wholesale, but RD operates a seasonal roadside fruit stand from which it sells apples at retail. The wholesale sales of apples are exempt from both B&O and litter taxes. The retail sales of apples are subject to retailing B&O and litter taxes but are exempt from sales tax because the apples are sold as a food product for human consumption. Refer to subsection ~~((7))~~ (9)(d) of this rule for more information about the retail sales tax exemption applicable to sales of food products for human consumption.

(b) **Farmers using agricultural products in a manufacturing process.** The B&O tax exemption provided by RCW 82.04.330 does not apply to any person selling manufactured substances or articles. Thus, farmers who manufacture products using agricultural products that they have grown, raised, or produced are subject to manufacturing B&O tax on the value of products manufactured. Farmers who sell their manufactured products at retail or wholesale in the state of Washington are also generally subject to the retailing or wholesaling B&O tax, as the case may be. In such cases, a multiple activities tax credit (MATC) may be available. Refer to WAC 458-20-136 (Manufacturing, processing for hire, fabricating) and WAC 458-20-19301 (Multiple activities tax credits), respectively, for more information about the manufacturing B&O tax and the MATC.

(i) **Manufacturing fresh fruits and vegetables.** RCW 82.04.4266 provides a B&O tax exemption to persons manufacturing fresh fruits or vegetables by canning, preserving, freezing, processing, or dehydrating fresh fruits or vegetables. For purposes of this rule, "fruits" and "vegetables" does not include marijuana.

Wholesale sales of fresh fruits or vegetables canned, preserved, frozen, processed, or dehydrated by the seller and sold to purchasers who transport the goods out of this state in the ordinary course of business are also eligible for this exemption. A seller must keep and preserve records for the period required by RCW 82.32.070 establishing that the purchaser transported the goods out of Washington state.

(A) A person claiming the exemption must file a complete annual survey with the department under RCW 82.32.585. In addition, persons claiming this tax preference must report the amount of the exemption on their monthly or quarterly excise tax return. For more information on reporting requirements for this tax preference see RCW 82.32.808.

(B) RCW 82.04.4266 is scheduled to expire July 1, ~~((2015))~~ 2025, at which time the preferential B&O tax rate under RCW 82.04.260 will apply.

(ii) **Manufacturing dairy products.** RCW 82.04.4268 provides a B&O tax exemption to persons manufacturing dairy products, not including any marijuana-infused product, that as of September 20, 2001, are identified in 21 C.F.R., chapter 1, parts 131, 133, and 135. These products include milk, buttermilk, cream, yogurt, cheese, and ice cream, and also include by-products from the manufacturing of dairy products such as whey and casein.

The exemption also applies to persons selling manufactured dairy products to purchasers who transport the goods out of Washington state in the ordinary course of business.

Unlike the exemption for certain wholesale sales of fresh fruits or vegetables (see (b)(i) of this subsection), the exemption for sales of qualifying dairy products does not require that the sales be made at wholesale.

A seller must keep and preserve records for the period required by RCW 82.32.070 establishing that the purchaser transported the goods out of Washington state or the goods were sold to a manufacturer for use as an ingredient or component in the manufacturing of a dairy product.

(A) A person claiming the exemption must file a complete annual survey with the department under RCW 82.32.-585. In addition, persons claiming this tax preference must report the amount of the exemption on their monthly or quarterly excise tax return. For more information on reporting requirements for this tax preference see RCW 82.32.808.

(B) RCW 82.04.4268 is scheduled to expire July 1, ~~(2015)~~ 2025, at which time the preferential B&O tax rate under RCW 82.04.260 will apply.

(C) Effective October 1, 2013, the exemption provided by RCW 82.04.4268 expanded to include wholesale sales by a dairy product manufacturer to a purchaser who uses the dairy products as an ingredient or component in the manufacturing in Washington of another dairy product. The definition of dairy products was expanded to include products comprised of not less than seventy percent dairy products measured by weight or volume.

~~((D) Effective July 1, 2023, the preferential B&O tax rate will no longer apply to sales of dairy products, where a dairy product is used by the purchaser as an ingredient or component in the manufacturing of a dairy product in Washington.)~~

(c) **Raising cattle for wholesale sale.** RCW 82.04.330 provides a B&O tax exemption to persons who raise cattle for wholesale sale provided that the cattle are held for at least sixty days prior to the sale. Persons who hold cattle for fewer than sixty days before reselling the cattle are not considered to be engaging in the normal activities of growing, raising, or producing livestock for sale.

**Example 6.** A feedlot operation purchases cattle and feeds them until they attain a good market condition. The cattle are then sold at wholesale. The feedlot operator is exempt from B&O tax on wholesale sales of cattle if it held the cattle for at least sixty days while they were prepared for market. However, the feedlot operator is subject to wholesaling B&O tax on wholesale sales of cattle held for fewer than sixty days prior to the sale.

(d) **B&O tax exemptions available to farmers.** In addition to the exemption for wholesale sales of agricultural products, several other B&O tax exemptions available to farmers ~~(that)~~ are discussed in this subsection.

(i) **Growing, raising, or producing agricultural products owned by other persons.** RCW 82.04.330 exempts amounts received by a farmer for growing, raising, or producing agricultural products owned by others, such as custom feed operations.

**Example 7.** A farmer is engaged in the business of raising cattle owned by others (commonly referred to as "custom feeding"). After the cattle attain a good market condition, the owner ~~(then)~~ sells them. Amounts received by the farmer for custom feeding are exempt from B&O tax under RCW

82.04.330, provided that the farmer held the cattle for at least sixty days. Farmers are not considered to be engaging in the activity of raising cattle for sale unless the cattle are held for at least sixty days while the cattle are prepared for market. (See (c) of this subsection.)

(ii) **Processed hops shipped outside Washington for first use.** RCW 82.04.337 exempts amounts received by hop growers or dealers for hops shipped outside the state of Washington for first use, if those hops have been processed into extract, pellets, or powder in this state. However, the processor or warehouse of such products is not exempt on amounts charged for processing or warehousing such products.

(iii) **Sales of hatching eggs or poultry.** RCW 82.04.410 exempts amounts received for the sale of hatching eggs or poultry by farmers producing hatching eggs or poultry, when these agricultural products are for use in the production for sale of poultry or poultry products.

~~((7))~~ **(9) Retail sales tax and use tax exemptions.** This subsection provides information about a number of retail sales tax and corresponding use tax exemptions available to farmers and persons buying tangible personal property at retail from farmers. Some exemptions require the buyer to provide the seller with an exemption certificate. Refer to subsection ~~((8))~~ **(10)** of this rule for additional information regarding exemption certificates.

(a) **Pollen.** RCW 82.08.0277 and 82.12.0273 exempt the sale and use of pollen from retail sales and use taxes.

(b) **Semen.** RCW 82.08.0272 and 82.12.0267 exempt the sale and use of semen used in the artificial insemination of livestock ~~(is exempt)~~ from retail sales and use taxes.

(c) **Feed for livestock at public livestock markets.** RCW 82.08.0296 and 82.12.0296 exempt the sale and use of feed to be consumed by livestock at a public livestock market from retail sales and use taxes.

(d) **Food products.** RCW 82.08.0293 and 82.12.0293 exempt the sale and use of food products for human consumption from retail sales and use taxes. These exemptions also apply to the sale ~~(and)~~ or use of livestock for personal consumption as food. ~~((Refer to WAC 458-20-244 (Food and food ingredients))~~ For more information about food products that qualify for this exemption see WAC 458-20-244.

(e) **Auction sales of farm property.** RCW 82.08.0257 and 82.12.0258 exempt from retail sales and use taxes tangible personal property, including household goods, which has been used in conducting a farm activity, if the property is purchased from a farmer, as defined in RCW 82.04.213, at an auction sale held or conducted by an auctioneer on a farm. Effective June 12, 2014, these exemptions do not apply to personal property used by a person in the production of marijuana.

(f) **Poultry.** RCW 82.08.0267 and 82.12.0262 exempt from retail sales and use taxes the sale and use of poultry used in the production for sale of poultry or poultry products.

**Example 8.** A poultry hatchery produces poultry from eggs. The resulting poultry are sold to egg producers. These sales are exempt from retail sales tax under RCW 82.08.-0267. (They are also exempt from B&O tax. See subsection ~~((6))~~ **(8)(d)(iii)** of this rule.)

(g) **Leases of irrigation equipment.** RCW 82.08.0288 and 82.12.0283 exempt the lease or use of irrigation equipment from retail sales and use taxes, but only if:

(i) The lessor purchased the irrigation equipment for the purpose of irrigating land controlled by the lessor;

(ii) The lessor has paid retail sales or use tax upon the irrigation equipment;

(iii) The irrigation equipment is attached to the land in whole or in part;

(iv) Effective June 12, 2014, the irrigation equipment is not used in the production of marijuana; and

(v) The irrigation equipment is leased to the lessee as an incidental part of the lease of the underlying land and is used solely on such land.

(h) **Beef and dairy cattle.** RCW 82.08.0259 and 82.12.-0261 exempt the sale and use of beef and dairy cattle, to be used by a farmer in producing an agricultural product, from retail sales and use taxes.

**Example 9.** John operates a farm where he raises beef and dairy cattle for sale. He also raises other livestock for sale including hogs, sheep, and goats. John's sales of beef and dairy cattle for use on a farm are exempt from retail sales tax. However, John must collect retail sales tax on all retail sales of sheep, goats, and hogs unless the sales qualify for either the food products exemption described in (d) of this subsection, or the exemption for sales of livestock for breeding purposes described in this subsection ~~((7))~~ (9)(i) of this rule.

(i) **Livestock for breeding purposes.** RCW 82.08.0259 and 82.12.0261 exempt the sale or use of livestock, as defined in RCW 16.36.005, for breeding purposes where the animals are registered in a nationally recognized breed association from retail sales and use taxes.

**Example 10.** ABC Farms raises and sells quarter horses registered in the American Quarter Horse Association (AQHA). Quarter horses are generally recognized as a definite breed of horse, and the AQHA is a nationally recognized breed association. Therefore, ABC Farms is not required to collect sales tax on retail sales of quarter horses for breeding purposes, provided it receives and retains a completed exemption certificate from the buyer.

(j) **Bedding materials for chickens.** RCW 82.08.920 and 82.12.920 exempt from retail sales and use taxes the sale to and use of bedding materials by farmers to accumulate and facilitate the removal of chicken manure, provided ~~((that))~~ the farmer is raising chickens that are sold as agricultural products.

(i) **What are bedding materials?** "Bedding materials" are wood shavings, straw, sawdust, shredded paper, and other similar materials.

(ii) **Example 11.** Farmer raises chickens for use in producing eggs for sale. When the chickens are no longer useful for producing eggs, Farmer sells them to food processors for soup and stew meat. Farmer purchases bedding materials used to accumulate and facilitate the removal of chicken manure. The purchases of bedding materials by Farmer are exempt from retail sales tax as long as Farmer provides the seller with a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions. See subsection (10) of this rule for where to find an exemption certificate. The seller must retain a copy of the exemption certificate for its records.

The exemption merely requires that the chickens be sold as agricultural products. It is immaterial that Farmer primarily raises the chickens to produce eggs.

(k) **Propane or natural gas used to heat structures housing chickens.** RCW 82.08.910 and 82.12.910 exempt from retail sales and use taxes the sale to and use of propane or natural gas by farmers to heat structures used to house chickens. The propane or natural gas must be used exclusively to heat the structures, and the structures must be used exclusively to house chickens that are sold as agricultural products.

(i) **What are "structures"?** "Structures" are barns, sheds, and other similar buildings in which chickens are housed.

(ii) **Example 12.** Farmer purchases natural gas that is used to heat structures housing chickens. The natural gas is used exclusively to heat the structures, and the structures are used exclusively to house chickens. The chickens are used to produce eggs. When the chickens are no longer useful for producing eggs, Farmer sells the chickens to food processors for soup and stew meat. The purchase of natural gas by Farmer is exempt from retail sales tax as long as Farmer provides the seller with a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions. See subsection (10) of this rule for where to find an exemption certificate. The seller must retain a copy of the exemption certificate for its records.

The exemption merely requires that the chickens be sold as agricultural products. It is immaterial that Farmer primarily houses these chickens to produce eggs.

(ii) **Example 13.** Farmer purchases natural gas that is used to heat structures used in the incubation of chicken eggs and structures used for washing, packing, and storing eggs. The natural gas used to heat these structures is not exempt from retail sales tax because the structures are not used exclusively to house chickens that are sold as agricultural products.

(l) **Farm fuel used for agricultural purposes.**

(i) **Diesel, biodiesel and aircraft fuels.** RCW 82.08.865 and 82.12.865 exempt from retail sales and use taxes the sale and use of diesel fuel, biodiesel fuel, and aircraft fuel, to farm fuel users for agricultural purposes. The exemptions apply to a fuel blend if all of the component fuels of the blend would otherwise be exempt if the component fuels were sold as separate products. The buyer must provide the seller with a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions. See subsection ~~((8))~~ (10) of this rule for where to find an exemption certificate. The seller must retain a copy of the exemption certificate for its records.

(A) The exemptions apply to nonhighway uses for production of agricultural products and for providing horticultural services to farmers. Horticultural services include:

- (I) Soil preparation services;
- (II) Crop cultivation services;
- (III) Crop harvesting services.

(B) The exemptions do not apply to uses other than for agricultural purposes. Agricultural purposes do not include:

- (I) Heating space for human habitation or water for human consumption; or
- (II) Transporting on public roads individuals, agricultural products, farm machinery or equipment, or other tangi-

ble personal property, except when the transportation is incidental to transportation on private property and the fuel used for such transportation is not subject to tax under chapter 82.38 RCW.

(ii) **Propane and natural gas used in distilling mint on a farm.** Effective October 1, 2013, RCW 82.08.220 and 82.12.220 exempt from retail sales and use taxes sales to and ((the)) use by farmers of propane or natural gas ((that is)) used exclusively to distill mint on a farm. The buyer must provide the seller with a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions. The seller must retain a copy of ((an)) the exemption certificate for its records. See subsection ((8)) (10) of this rule for where to find an exemption certificate. The seller must also report amounts claimed for exemption when electronically filing excise tax returns. This exemption is scheduled to expire July 1, 2017.

(m) ~~((Machinery, equipment, and structures used to reduce emissions from field burning.~~ Prior to January 1, 2011, RCW 82.08.840 and 82.12.840 provided retail sales and use tax exemptions for certain property and services used to reduce field burning of cereal grains and field and turf grass grown for seed, or to reduce air emissions resulting from such field burning. The exemptions applied to sales and uses of machinery and equipment, and sales and uses of tangible personal property that became an ingredient or component of eligible structures or eligible machinery and equipment, if all of the requirements for the exemption listed below in this subsection were met. The sales tax exemption also applied to services rendered in respect to constructing structures, installing, constructing, repairing, cleaning, decorating, altering, or improving of structures or eligible machinery and equipment, and the use tax exemption also applied to the use of services rendered in respect to installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving of eligible machinery and equipment, if all of the requirements for the exemption were met.

Persons taking an exemption must keep records necessary for the department to verify eligibility for the exemption. Persons who have taken an exemption and then discover that they do not meet the requirements for the exemption are subject to a deferred sales tax or use tax liability. Refer to subsection (5)(b) of this rule for additional information about deferred sales tax and use tax.

(i) **Majority use requirement.** To qualify for an exemption, the machinery, equipment, or structure must be used more than half (50%) of the time to:

(A) Gather, densify, process, handle, store, transport, or incorporate straw or straw-based products that results in a reduction in field burning of cereal grains and field and turf grass grown for seed; or

(B) Decrease air emissions resulting from field burning of cereal grains and field and turf grass grown for seed.

(ii) **Examples.** The following examples illustrate this exemption:

(A) **Example 14.** Farmer cultivates turf grass. Farmer purchases spray equipment. As an alternative to field burning, the fields in which the spray equipment is used must be sprayed five times instead of twice. If the use of the spray equipment meets the requirement that the equipment be used

more than half of the time to decrease air emissions resulting from field burning the purchase of the spray equipment is exempt.

(B) **Example 15.** Farmer, who performs custom baling, purchases a new baler for use in baling hay and straw. The purchase of the baler is exempt if it will be used more than half of the time to bale straw, which results in a reduction in field burning.

(C) **Example 16.** Farmer purchases a new combine for use in harvesting wheat. In addition to cutting the stalks, separating the kernels from the chaff, and unloading the kernels, the combine also chops the residual chaff before discharging it onto the field. While the need for field burning may decrease because the smaller residue more readily decomposes, the purchase of the combine does not qualify for the exemption. The combine is not used more than half of the time to decrease air emissions from field burning.

(n)) **Nutrient management equipment and facilities.** RCW 82.08.890 and 82.12.890 provide retail sales and use tax exemptions for the sale to or use by eligible persons of:

(i) Qualifying livestock nutrient management equipment;

(ii) Labor and services rendered in respect to installing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving qualifying livestock nutrient management equipment; and

(iii) Labor and services rendered in respect to repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving qualifying livestock nutrient management facilities, or to tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component of qualifying livestock nutrient management facilities in the course of repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving such facilities.

(iv) Nonqualifying labor and services. This subsection ((7)(n)) (9)(m)(iii) of this rule does not include the sale of or charge made for labor and services rendered in respect to the constructing of new, or replacing previously existing, qualifying livestock nutrient management facilities, or tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component of qualifying livestock nutrient management facilities during the course of constructing new, or replacing previously existing qualifying livestock nutrient management facilities.

(v) Nutrient management plan must be certified or approved. The exemptions provided by RCW 82.08.890 and 82.12.890 apply to sales made after the livestock nutrient management plan is:

(A) Certified under chapter 90.64 RCW;

(B) Approved as part of the permit issued under chapter 90.48 RCW; or

(C) Approved by a conservation district and who qualifies for the exemption provided under RCW 82.08.855. Effective June 12, 2014, ((chapter 97, Laws of 2014, removed)) the requirement for ((an)) the department to issue exemption certificates was removed. A Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions should be completed and provided to the seller.

(vi) **Definitions. For the purpose of these exemptions, the following definitions apply:**

(A) "**Animal feeding operation**" means a lot or facility, other than an aquatic animal production facility, where the following conditions are met:

- Animals, other than aquatic animals, have been, are, or will be stabled or confined and fed or maintained for a total of forty-five days or more in any twelve-month period; and

- Crops, vegetation, forage growth, or post-harvest residues are not sustained in the normal growing season over any portion of the lot or facility.

(B) **"Conservation district"** means a subdivision of state government organized under chapter 89.08 RCW.

(C) **"Eligible person"** means a person:

- Licensed to produce milk under chapter 15.36 RCW who has a certified dairy nutrient management plan, as required by chapter 90.64 RCW; or

- Who owns an animal feeding operation and has a permit issued under chapter 90.48 RCW; or

- Who owns an animal feeding operation and has a nutrient management plan approved by a conservation district as meeting natural resource conservation service field office technical guide standards and who qualifies for the exemption provided under RCW 82.08.855.

(D) **"Handling and treatment of livestock manure"** means the activities of collecting, storing, moving, or transporting livestock manure, separating livestock manure solids from liquids, or applying livestock manure to the agricultural lands of an eligible person other than through the use of pivot or linear type traveling irrigation systems.

(E) **"Permit"** means either a state waste discharge permit or a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit, or both.

(F) **"Qualifying livestock nutrient management equipment"** means the tangible personal property listed below for exclusive use in the handling and treatment of livestock manure, including repair and replacement parts for the same equipment:

- Aerators
- Agitators
- Augers
- Conveyers
- Gutter cleaners
- Hard-hose reel traveler irrigation systems
- Lagoon and pond liners and floating covers
- Loaders
- Manure composting devices
- Manure spreaders
- Manure tank wagons
- Manure vacuum tanks
- Poultry house cleaners
- Poultry house flame sterilizers
- Poultry house washers
- Poultry litter saver machines
- Pipes
- Pumps
- Scrapers
- Separators
- Slurry injectors and hoses
- Wheelbarrows, shovels, and pitchforks.

(G) **"Qualifying livestock nutrient management facilities"** means the exclusive use in the handling and treatment of livestock manure of the facilities listed below:

Flush systems

Lagoons

Liquid livestock manure storage structures, such as concrete tanks or glass-lined steel tanks

Structures used solely for ~~((the))~~ dry storage of manure, including roofed stacking facilities.

~~((\oplus))~~ (n) Anaerobic digesters. RCW 82.08.900 and 82.12.900 provide retail sales and use tax exemptions for purchases and uses by eligible persons establishing or operating anaerobic digesters or to services rendered in respect to installing, constructing, repairing, cleaning, altering, or improving an anaerobic digester. The exemptions include sales of tangible personal property that becomes an ingredient or component of the anaerobic digester. The anaerobic digester must be used primarily (more than fifty percent measured by volume or weight) to treat livestock manure. Anaerobic digester is a facility that processes manure from livestock into biogas and dried manure using microorganisms in a decomposition process within a closed, oxygen-free container.

(i) **Exemption certificate.** ~~((The department must provide an exemption certificate to an eligible person when an application is made-))~~ Effective July 24, 2015, eligible persons no longer need to apply for an exemption certificate. An "eligible person" is any person establishing or operating an anaerobic digester to treat primarily livestock manure.

(ii) **Records retention.** Persons claiming the exemptions under RCW 82.08.900 and 82.12.900 must keep records necessary for the department to verify eligibility. ~~((A))~~ Sellers may make tax exempt sales only if the buyer ((must)) provides the seller with ((an exemption certificate)) a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions, and the seller ((must)) retaining a copy of the certificate for its files. See subsection (10) of this rule for where to find an exemption certificate.

~~((\oplus))~~ (o) Animal pharmaceuticals. RCW 82.08.880 and 82.12.880 exempt from retail sales and use taxes the sale of and use of certain animal pharmaceuticals when sold to, or used by, farmers or veterinarians. To qualify for the exemption, the animal pharmaceutical must be administered to an animal ~~((that is))~~ raised by a farmer for the purpose of producing an agricultural product for sale. ~~((Also))~~ In addition, the animal pharmaceutical must be approved by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) or the United States Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

(i) **Who is a veterinarian?** A "veterinarian" means a person who is licensed to practice veterinary medicine, surgery, or dentistry under chapter 18.92 RCW.

(ii) **How can I determine whether the FDA or USDA has approved an animal pharmaceutical?** The FDA and USDA have an established approval process set forth in federal regulations. The FDA maintains a list of all approved animal pharmaceuticals called the "Green Book." The USDA maintains a list of approved biotechnology products called the "Veterinary Biologics Product Catalogue." Pharmaceuti-



cals that are not on either of these lists have not been approved and are not eligible for the exemption.

(iii) **Example 17.** Dairy Farmer purchases sterilizing agents. The sterilizing agents are applied to the equipment and facilities where Dairy Farmer's cows are milked. Dairy Farmer also purchases teat dips, antiseptic udder washes, and salves that are not listed in either the FDA's *Green Book of approved animal pharmaceuticals* or the USDA's *Veterinary Biologics Product Catalogue* of approved biotechnology products. The purchases of sterilizing agents are not exempt as animal pharmaceuticals because the sterilizing agents are not administered to animals. The teat dips, antiseptic udder washes, and salves are likewise not exempt because they have not been approved by the FDA or USDA.

(iv) **What type of animal must the pharmaceutical be administered to?** As explained above, the exemptions are limited to the sale and use of animal pharmaceuticals administered to an animal that is raised by a farmer for the purpose of producing an agricultural product for sale. The conditions under which a farmer may purchase and use tax-exempt animal pharmaceuticals are similar to those under which a farmer may purchase and use feed at wholesale. Both types of purchases and uses require that the particular product be sold to or used by a farmer (or a veterinarian in the case of animal pharmaceuticals), and that the product be given or administered to an animal raised by a farmer for the purpose of producing an agricultural product for sale.

(v) **Examples of animals raised for the purpose of producing agricultural products for sale.** For purposes of the exemptions, the following is a nonexclusive list of examples of animals that are being raised for the purpose of producing an agricultural product for sale, presuming all other requirements for the exemption are met:

(A) Horses, cattle, or other livestock raised by a farmer for sale;

(B) Cattle raised by a farmer for the purpose of slaughtering, if the resulting products are sold;

(C) Milk cows raised and/or used by a dairy farmer for the purpose of producing milk for sale;

(D) Horses raised by a farmer for the purpose of producing foals for sale;

(E) Sheep raised by a farmer for the purpose of producing wool for sale; and

(F) "Private sector cultured aquatic products" as defined by RCW 15.85.020 (e.g., salmon, catfish, and mussels) raised by an aquatic farmer for the purpose of sale.

(vi) **Examples of animals that are not raised for the purpose of producing agricultural products for sale.** For purposes of the exemptions, the following nonexclusive list of examples do not qualify because the animals are not being raised for the purpose of producing an agricultural product for sale:

(A) Cattle raised for the purpose of slaughtering if the resulting products are not produced for sale;

(B) Sheep and other livestock raised as pets;

(C) Dogs or cats, whether raised as pets or for sale. Dogs and cats are pet animals; therefore, they are not considered to be agricultural products. (See subsection (3) of this rule); and

(D) Horses raised for the purpose of racing, showing, riding, and jumping. However, if at some future time the

horses are no longer raised for racing, showing, riding, or jumping and are instead being raised by a farmer for the purpose of producing foals for sale, the exemption will apply if all other requirements for the exemption are met.

(vii) **Do products that are used to administer animal pharmaceuticals qualify for the exemption?** Sales and uses of products that are used to administer animal pharmaceuticals (e.g., syringes) do not qualify for the exemptions, even if they are later used to administer a tax-exempt animal pharmaceutical. However, sales and uses of tax-exempt animal pharmaceuticals contained in a product used to administer the animal pharmaceutical (e.g., a dose of a tax-exempt pharmaceutical contained in a syringe or cotton applicator) qualify for the exemption.

~~((q))~~ **(p) Replacement parts for qualifying farm machinery and equipment.** RCW 82.08.855 and 82.12.855 exempt from retail sales and use taxes sales to and uses by eligible farmers of replacement parts for qualifying farm machinery and equipment. Also included are: Labor and services rendered during the installation of repair parts; and labor and services rendered during repair as long as no tangible personal property is installed, incorporated, or placed in, or becomes an ingredient or component of the qualifying equipment other than replacement parts.

(i) **The following definitions apply to this subsection:**

(A) "Eligible farmer" as defined in RCW 82.08.855(4).

(B) "Qualifying farm machinery and equipment" means machinery and equipment used primarily by an eligible farmer for growing, raising, or producing agricultural products, and effective July 1, 2015, providing bee pollination services, or both.

(C) "Qualifying farm machinery and equipment" does not include:

- Vehicles as defined in RCW 46.04.670, other than farm tractors as defined in RCW 46.04.180, farm vehicles and other farm implements. "Farm implements" means machinery or equipment manufactured, designed, or reconstructed for agricultural purposes and used primarily by an eligible farmer to grow, raise, or produce agricultural products, but does not include lawn tractors and all-terrain vehicles;

- Aircraft;
- Hand tools and hand-powered tools; and
- Property with a useful life of less than one year.

(D) "Replacement parts" means those parts that replace an existing part, or which are essential to maintain the working condition, of a piece of qualifying farm machinery or equipment. Paint, fuel, oil, hydraulic fluids, antifreeze, and similar items are not replacement parts except when installed, incorporated, or placed in qualifying farm machinery and equipment during the course of installing replacement parts as defined here or making repairs as described above in ~~((q))~~ **(p)** of this subsection.

(ii) **Exemption certificate.** Prior to June 12, 2014, the department was required to provide an exemption certificate to an eligible farmer or renew an exemption certificate when the eligible farmer applied for a renewal. ~~((See the department's web site for the "Application for Exemption Certificate for Replacement Parts and/or Services for Farm Machinery and Equipment."))~~

(A) Persons claiming the exemptions must keep records necessary for the department to verify eligibility. (~~Eligible farmers must provide sellers with their department issued exemption certificate.~~) Sellers making tax-exempt sales must obtain, and retain in its files, a completed Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions from the farmer. In lieu of the exemption certificate, a seller may capture the relevant data elements as allowed under the streamlined sales and use tax agreement.

(B) The exemptions provided by RCW 82.08.890 and 82.12.890 do not apply to sales made from July 1, 2010, through June 30, 2013.

~~((8)) (10) Sales tax exemption certificates.~~ As indicated in subsection ~~((7)) (9)~~ of this rule, certain sales of tangible personal property and retail services either to or by farmers are exempt from retail sales tax. A person claiming an exemption must keep records necessary for the department to verify eligibility for each claimed exemption. (~~Except as provided below, for those exemptions that require the buyer to provide the seller with an exemption certificate at the time of sale~~) Effective June 12, 2014, the requirement for the department to issue certificates to qualified farmers was removed. Instead, farmers may complete and use the department's Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions. Refer to the department's web site at dor.wa.gov for the exemption certificate. In lieu of an exemption certificate, a seller may capture the relevant data elements as provided under the streamlined sales and use tax agreement as allowed under RCW 82.08.050. Sellers must retain a copy of the exemption certificate or the data elements in their files. Without proper documentation, sellers are liable for payment of the retail sales tax on sales claimed as exempt.

~~((Effective June 12, 2014, chapter 97, Laws of 2014, § 602 removed the requirement for the department to issue certificates for RCW 82.08.890 when qualified farmers applied for them. Sellers making tax-exempt sales of livestock nutrient management equipment may obtain a Farmers' Certificate for Wholesale Purchases and Sales Tax Exemptions certificate from the buyer in lieu of the department issued certificate. A seller may capture the relevant data elements as allowed under the streamlined sales and use tax agreement in lieu of the exemption certificate. The department is still required to issue an exemption certificate to eligible persons for exemptions under RCW 82.08.900.))~~

### WSR 15-22-031

#### EXPEDITED RULES

### STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGES

[Filed October 27, 2015, 2:22 p.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: Tuition and fee charges, WAC 131-28-005, 131-28-021, 131-28-025, 131-28-02501, 131-28-026, 131-28-030, 131-28-045, and 131-28-070.

#### NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Denise Graham, State Board for Community and Technical Colleges, 1300 Quince Street S.E., Olympia, WA 98504, AND RECEIVED BY January 4, 2016.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: Updating WAC to integrate technical colleges into the tuition and fee provisions, consistent with chapter 55, Laws of 2015; updating WAC to incorporate change from sections, chapter 274, Laws of 2011 (removed community colleges from the requirement that tuition fees must be rounded to the nearest whole dollar); and making clarifying and technical corrections.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: Chapter 55, Laws of 2015, made technical colleges subject to the same tuition, fee, and waiver statutes as community colleges. Section 5, chapter 274, Laws of 2011, removed community colleges from the requirement that tuition fees must be rounded to the nearest whole dollar. The proposed changes to chapter 131-28 WAC will align administrative rules with RCW.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: Chapter 28B.15 RCW.

Statute Being Implemented: Chapter 28B.15 RCW.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting, Implementation, and Enforcement: Denise Graham, 1300 Quince Street S.E., Olympia, WA 98504, (360) 704-4350.

October 27, 2015

Beth Gordon

Executive Assistant  
and Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 01-22-010, filed 10/26/01, effective 11/26/01)

**WAC 131-28-005 Tuition and fees for community and technical colleges established.** Tuition ~~((and))~~, fees, and waivers for community and technical college state-funded courses are established in accordance with chapter 28B.15 RCW. ~~((Technical colleges are required to administer tuition and tuition waivers for state-funded courses under policies and procedures of their respective boards of trustees. This chapter applies only to community colleges unless technical colleges are specified.))~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 01-22-010, filed 10/26/01, effective 11/26/01)

**WAC 131-28-021 Definitions.** For the purpose of ~~((WAC 131-28-025))~~ chapter 131-28 WAC, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Resident student" and "nonresident student" shall be defined in the same manner as in chapter 28B.15 RCW.

(2) "Tuition fees," "building fees," "operating fees" and "services and activities fees" shall be defined in the same manner as in chapter 28B.15 RCW.

(3) "Special fees" shall be defined as all fees established by the district board of trustees other than tuition, building fees, operating fees or services and activities fees and as such shall include fees charged to an individual student for specific services and privileges received by such student.

(4) "Student funded course" shall be defined as any organized instructional activity, typically ungraded, primarily offered for part-time students, not normally an integral part of any specific study program leading to either an academic or an occupational degree or certificate, and specifically identified as such by a community or technical college consistent with the course classification procedures established by the state board.

~~(5) ("Required course" shall be defined as any course specified in the college catalog or official curriculum description of any vocational preparatory program as necessary for completion of such program, except courses prerequisite to such program.~~

~~(6))~~ "State-funded course" shall be defined as any course reported by the college for state funding that is eligible for state funding under chapters 28.15 and 28B.50 RCW, Title 131 WAC and state board policy.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-20-063, filed 9/26/14, effective 10/27/14)

**WAC 131-28-025 Method of assessing tuition and fee charges.** Tuition and fees charged to students in state-funded courses shall conform to chapter 28B.15 RCW, the legislative budget and policies of the state board and the following:

(1) For credit- and credit equivalent-based programs, tuition, and fees charged to students:

(a) Shall be based upon the number of credits assigned to such courses as listed in the official and current catalog of the college, or for courses not given such credit designations, the number of credit equivalents as computed by the method for deriving such equivalents established by the state board.

(b) Shall be assessed on a per-credit basis at uniform rates for resident and for nonresident students, respectively. Partial credits shall be assessed on a proportionate basis. The respective maximums charged to any resident or nonresident student shall not exceed the amount allowed by law.

(c) Shall be assessed for part-time students, for each credit of registration or its equivalent.

(d) Shall include an additional operating fee for each credit in excess of eighteen at the tuition fee rate charged to part-time students.

(2) For competency-based degree programs, tuition and fees charged to students:

(a) Shall be based on the tuition and fee rates charged for a fifteen-credit load for one quarter, prorated for the length of the competency-based degree program term.

(b) For the purposes of the proration required under (a) of this subsection, a quarter shall be considered to be three months long.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 01-22-010, filed 10/26/01, effective 11/26/01)

**WAC 131-28-02501 Waivers.** Community and technical college boards may grant waivers from the standard tuition and fees rate ~~((for))~~ to students in ungraded courses designated in WAC 131-28-026(3) and to students who qualify under a waiver created in Title 28B RCW.

Except for ungraded courses, colleges shall waive the building fee, services and activities fees, and operating fees in equal proportion.

Colleges may not impose conditions or eligibility criteria beyond that specified in this chapter, state board policy, or Title 28B RCW. Colleges may restrict the number of waivers granted.

~~((Colleges may round the amount collected to the nearest dollar.))~~

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 12-14-020, filed 6/22/12, effective 7/23/12)

**WAC 131-28-026 Tuition charges for certain ungraded courses.** (1) The state board shall designate ungraded courses. These courses may be offered at tuition rates that differ from the standard rates set by WAC 131-28-025. Ungraded shall mean courses not categorized by level of instruction and may be assigned degree credit or letter grades.

(2) Ungraded courses shall meet the following qualifications:

(a) The course has a specialized purpose in that it is intended to meet the unique educational needs of a specific category or group of students.

(b) The course is offered for the purpose of providing the individual student with a discrete skill or basic body of knowledge that is intended to enhance potential for initial or continued employment, parenting skills or retirement.

(c) The course cannot be administered as a contract course pursuant to WAC 131-28-027, 131-32-010, or 131-32-020.

(d) The course is not one specifically or primarily intended to satisfy requirements for receiving a high school diploma.

(3) Colleges may establish the amount of waiver for the following ungraded courses:

(a) Farm management and small business management;

(b) Emergency medical technician and paramedic continuing education;

(c) Retirement;

(d) Industrial first aid offered to satisfy WISHA and approved by the department of labor and industries;

(e) Journey person training in cooperation with joint apprenticeship and training committees;

(f) Parenting education including, but not limited to, cooperative preschool programs.

(4) The waiver amounts for the following ungraded courses shall conform with the following schedule:

(a) Adult basic education, English as a second language, GED preparation: An amount to be established by the state board.

(b) Courses offered for the purpose of satisfying related or supplemental educational requirements for apprentices registered with the Washington state apprenticeship council or federal Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training: A college shall waive one-half of the standard per credit tuition and services and activities fee. The college may convert the credit hour charge to a rounded amount per clock hour. Colleges may deduct the tuition owed from training contracts with apprentice organizations.

(5) Students taking both regular and ungraded courses will be charged separately for the courses.

(6) Application of this section shall be subject to administrative procedures established by the state director with respect to maximum credit values of such ungraded courses, curriculum, or any unique circumstances related to enrollment in such courses.

(7) Ungraded course fees received pursuant to this section shall be accounted for and deposited in local (~~community~~) college operating fee accounts established in RCW 28B.15.031.

(8) Ungraded course fees may be paid by the sponsoring entity rather than an individual student.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 95-13-070, filed 6/20/95, effective 7/21/95)

**WAC 131-28-030 Waiver of tuition and fees for needy or disadvantaged students.** Pursuant to authority granted by RCW 28B.15.740, the boards of trustees of community and technical college districts are authorized to waive all or part of tuition and services and activities fees for needy students: Provided, That the students shall qualify for such waiver under criteria set forth in WAC 131-28-040 through 131-28-045.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 98-22-062, filed 11/2/98, effective 12/3/98)

**WAC 131-28-045 Procedure for implementing tuition and fee waivers authorized pursuant to RCW 28B.15.740.** (1) Community and technical colleges may waive the tuition and service and activities fees for needy resident students under the provisions of RCW 28B.15.740. The amount that can be waived under this provision is limited by the waiver limits set forth in RCW 28B.15.910.

(2) In addition, colleges may waive up to three-quarters of one percent of the estimated gross collection of tuition and service and activities fees for other students. These waivers are not to be awarded based on participation in intercollegiate athletics. The estimated gross collection of tuition and service and activities fees shall be based on budgeted, state supported, annual average enrollment, after deducting the portion of the gross amount which is attributed to the difference between resident and nonresident tuition and fees.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending Order 47, filed 9/12/75)

**WAC 131-28-070 Combination of tuition and fee waivers with other forms of student financial aid.** Nothing in (~~WAC 131-28-030 through 131-28-050~~) chapter 131-28 WAC is intended to prevent the award of tuition and fee waivers in conjunction with other forms of student financial aid as a package designed to meet the overall educational assistance needs of any student.

## WSR 15-22-056

### EXPEDITED RULES

### GAMBLING COMMISSION

[Filed October 30, 2015, 7:52 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 230-01-010 Field offices and operations and 230-14-240 Distributing carry-over pull-tab jackpots.

### NOTICE

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Susan Newer, Rules Coordinator, Washington State Gambling Commission, P.O. Box 42400, Olympia, WA 98504, AND RECEIVED BY January 4, 2016.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: WAC 230-01-010 Field offices and operations, the agency has downsized during the past year. To reduce costs and accommodate fewer staff, several field offices have been closed and staff assigned to other locations.

WAC 230-14-240 Distributing carry-over pull-tab jackpots, the problem gambling nonprofit organization referenced in this rule changed its name from the Washington state council on problem gambling to the evergreen council on problem gambling.

Reasons Supporting Proposal:

- Removing the addresses of field offices that have closed will provide the public with the most current information regarding how to contact us for answers to their questions.
- In the event a licensee stops operating a carry-over pull-tab game, this amendment will provide licensees with the current name of the organization that may receive the carry-over pull-tab jackpots.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 9.46.070.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Washington state gambling commission, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Susan Newer, Rules Coordinator, Lacey, (360) 486-3466; Implementation: David Trujillo, Director, Lacey, (360) 486-3512; and Enforcement: Josh Stueckle, Acting Agent in Charge, Spokane, (509) 325-7909.

Agency Comments or Recommendations, if any, as to Statutory Language, Implementation, Enforcement, and Fiscal Matters: See above.

October 29, 2015  
Susan Newer  
Rules Coordinator

**AMENDATORY SECTION** (Amending WSR 07-15-062, filed 7/16/07, effective 1/1/08)

**WAC 230-01-010 Field offices and operations.** Direct regulatory and operational questions to our field offices, located at:

| City   | Telephone Number        |
|--|-------------------------|
| <b>Eastern Region</b><br>North 901 Monroe Room 240<br>Spokane, WA 99201  | 509-325-7900            |
| <del>((1703 Creekside Loop Suite 120<br/>Yakima, WA 98902</del>  | <del>509-575-2820</del> |
| <b>Northwest Region</b><br><del>3501 Colby Avenue Suite 102<br/>Everett, WA 98201</del>  | <del>425-304-6300</del> |
| 451 Southwest 10th Street<br>Plaza 451 Building Suite 218<br>Renton, WA 98057  | 425-277-7014            |
| <del>((<b>Southwest Region</b><br/>Tacoma Mall Office Building<br/>4301 South Pine Street<br/>Suite 307<br/>Tacoma, WA 98409</del> | <del>253-671-6280</del> |

**AMENDATORY SECTION** (Amending WSR 07-17-058, filed 8/10/07, effective 1/1/08)

**WAC 230-14-240 Distributing carry-over pull-tab jackpots.** If businesses stop conducting gambling activities, they must:

- (1) Transfer the carry-over jackpot to the new owners who bought the business and who have a gambling license. The new licensee must operate the carry-over jackpot game until they award the prize; or
- (2) Award the carry-over jackpot to a player by playing out the game before closing; or
- (3) Give the carry-over jackpot to the ~~((Washington state))~~ Evergreen council on problem gambling; or
- (4) Give the carry-over jackpot to a charitable or non-profit organization we license.

**WSR 15-22-058**

**EXPEDITED RULES**

**DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE**

[Filed October 30, 2015, 9:02 a.m.]

Title of Rule and Other Identifying Information: WAC 458-19-070 Five dollars and ninety cents statutory aggregate limit calculation (Rule 19-070), explains the prorating process used to establish a consolidated levy rate when the assessor finds the statutory aggregate levy rate exceeds five dollars and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed value.

WAC 458-19-075 Constitutional one percent limit calculation (Rule 19-075), explains how to determine if the constitutional one percent limit is being exceeded and the sequence in which levy rates will be reduced or eliminated if exceeded.

**NOTICE**

THIS RULE IS BEING PROPOSED UNDER AN EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL ELIMINATE THE NEED FOR THE AGENCY TO HOLD PUBLIC HEARINGS, PREPARE A SMALL BUSINESS ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT, OR PROVIDE RESPONSES TO THE CRITERIA FOR A SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATIVE RULE. IF YOU OBJECT TO THIS USE OF THE EXPEDITED RULE-MAKING PROCESS, YOU MUST EXPRESS YOUR OBJECTIONS IN WRITING AND THEY MUST BE SENT TO Mark E. Bohe, Department of Revenue, P.O. Box 47453, Olympia, WA, 98504-7453, e-mail markbohe@dor.wa.gov, AND RECEIVED BY January 4, 2016.

Purpose of the Proposal and Its Anticipated Effects, Including Any Changes in Existing Rules: To incorporate legislation enacted in the 3rd sp. sess. of 2015, specifically:

- ESHB 2263, section 401, chapter 24, Laws of 2015, to be cited as new section RCW 36.160.080; and
- 2ESSB 5987, section 321, chapter 44, Laws of 2015, to be cited as new section RCW 81.104.175.

Copies of draft rules are available for viewing and printing on our web site at Rules Agenda.

Reasons Supporting Proposal: Updates Rule 19-070 and Rule 19-075 to incorporate 2015 legislation:

- ESHB 2263, chapter 24, Laws of 2015, sections creating, funding, and imposing tax for cultural access program; and
- 2ESSB 5987, chapter 44, Laws of 2015, sections creating, funding, and imposing tax for regional transit authority.

Statutory Authority for Adoption: RCW 84.08.010, 84.08.070, 84.52.0502, and 84.55.010.

Statute Being Implemented: RCW 84.52.010, 84.52.043, and 84.52.050.

Rule is not necessitated by federal law, federal or state court decision.

Name of Proponent: Department of revenue, governmental.

Name of Agency Personnel Responsible for Drafting: Mark Bohe, 1025 Union Avenue S.E., Suite #544, Olympia,

WA, (360) 534-1574; Implementation and Enforcement: Marcus Glasper, 1025 Union Avenue S.E., Suite #500, Olympia, WA, (360) 534-1615.

October 30, 2015  
Kevin Dixon  
Rules Coordinator

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-14-023, filed 6/23/14, effective 7/24/14)

**WAC 458-19-070 Five dollars and ninety cents statutory aggregate limit calculation.** (1) **Introduction.** The aggregate of all regular levy rates of junior taxing districts and senior taxing districts, other than the state and other specifically identified districts, cannot exceed five dollars and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed value in accordance with RCW 84.52.043. When the county assessor finds that this limit has been exceeded, the assessor recomputes the levy rates and establishes a new consolidated levy rate in the manner set forth in RCW 84.52.010. This section describes the prorationing process used to establish a consolidated levy rate when the assessor finds the statutory aggregate levy rate exceeds five dollars and ninety cents. If prorationing is required, the five dollar and ninety cents limit is reviewed before the constitutional one percent limit.

(2) **Levies not subject to statutory aggregate dollar rate limit.** The following levies are not subject to the statutory aggregate dollar rate limit of five dollars and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed value:

- (a) Levies by the state;
- (b) Levies by or for port or public utility districts;
- (c) Excess property tax levies authorized in Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution;
- (d) Levies by or for county ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130;
- (e) Levies for acquiring conservation futures under RCW 84.34.230;
- (f) Levies for emergency medical care or emergency medical services under RCW 84.52.069;
- (g) Levies for financing affordable housing for very low-income households under RCW 84.52.105;
- (h) The portion of metropolitan park district levies protected under RCW 84.52.120;
- (i) The portion of fire protection district levies protected under RCW 84.52.125;
- (j) Levies for criminal justice purposes under RCW 84.52.135;
- (k) Levies for transit-related purposes by a county under RCW 84.52.140; ~~(and)~~
- (l) The protected portion of the levies imposed under RCW 86.15.160 by flood control zone districts in a county with a population of seven hundred seventy-five thousand or more that are coextensive with a county; and
- (m) Levies imposed by a regional transit authority under RCW 81.104.175.

(3) **Prorationing under consolidated levy rate limitation.** RCW 84.52.010 sets forth the prorationing order in which the regular levies of taxing districts will be reduced or eliminated by the assessor to comply with the statutory aggregate dollar rate limit of five dollars and ninety cents per

thousand dollars of assessed value. The order contained in the statute lists which taxing districts are the first to either reduce or eliminate their levy rate. Taxing districts that are at the same level within the prorationing order are grouped together in tiers. Reductions or eliminations in levy rates are made on a pro rata basis within each tier of taxing district levies until the consolidated levy rate no longer exceeds the statutory aggregate dollar rate limit of five dollars and ninety cents.

As opposed to the order contained in RCW 84.52.010, which lists the taxing districts that are the first to have their levy rates reduced or eliminated, this section is written in reverse order; that is, it lists the taxing districts that must be first either fully or partially funded. If the statutory aggregate dollar rate is exceeded, then the levy rates for taxing districts within a particular tier must be reduced or eliminated on a pro rata basis. The proration factor, which is multiplied by each levy rate within the tier, is obtained by dividing the dollar rate remaining available to the taxing districts in that tier as a group by the sum of the levy rates originally certified by or for all of the taxing districts within the tier.

(a) Step one: Total the aggregate levy rates requested by all affected taxing districts in the tax code area. If this total is less than five dollars and ninety cents per thousand dollars of assessed value, no prorationing is necessary. If this total levy rate is more than five dollars and ninety cents, the assessor must proceed through the following steps until the aggregate dollar rate is brought within that limit.

(b) Step two: Subtract from \$5.90 the levy rates of the county and the county road district if the tax code area includes an unincorporated portion of the county, or the levy rates of the county and the city or town if the tax code area includes an incorporated area, as applicable.

(c) Step three: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates, if any, for fire protection districts under RCW 52.16.130, regional fire protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140 (1)(a), library districts under RCW 27.12.050 and 27.12.150, the first fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for metropolitan park districts created before January 1, 2002, under RCW 35.61.210, and the first fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for public hospital districts under RCW 70.44.060(6).

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step four.

(d) Step four: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates, if any, for fire protection districts under RCW 52.16.140 and 52.16.160, and regional fire protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140 (1)(b) and (c). However, under RCW 84.52.125 fire protection districts may protect up to twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of the total levies made under RCW 52.16.140 and 52.16.160 from prorationing.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. It is at this point that the provisions of RCW 84.52.125 come into play; that is, a fire protection district may protect up to twenty-five cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of the total levies made under RCW 52.16.140 and 52.16.160 from prorationing under RCW 84.52.043(2), if the total levies would otherwise be prorated under RCW 84.52.010 (2)(e) with respect to the five-dollar and ninety cent per thousand dollars of assessed value limit. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step five.

(e) Step five: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate, if any, for the first fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of metropolitan park districts created on or after January 1, 2002, under RCW 35.61.210.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step six.

(f) Step six: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the twenty-five cent per thousand dollars of assessed value levy rate for metropolitan park districts if it is not protected under RCW 84.52.120, the twenty-five cent per thousand dollars of assessed value levy rate for public hospital districts under RCW 70.44.060(6), and the levy rates, if any, for cemetery districts under RCW 68.52.310 and all other junior taxing districts if those levies are not listed in steps three through five or seven or eight of this subsection.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step seven.

(g) Step seven: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate, if any, for flood control zone districts other than the portion of a levy protected under RCW 84.52.815.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step eight.

(h) Step eight: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates, if any, for city transportation authorities under RCW 35.95A.100, park and recreation service areas under RCW 36.68.525, park and recreation districts under RCW 36.69.145, and cultural arts, stadium, and convention districts under RCW 67.38.130 ~~((on a pro rata basis until the remaining levy capacity equals zero))~~.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step nine.

(i) Step nine: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy imposed, if any, for cultural access programs under RCW 36.160.080 until the remaining levy capacity equals zero.

**(4) Example.**

| DISTRICT    | ORIGINAL LEVY RATE | PRORATION FACTOR | FINAL LEVY RATE | REMAINING LEVY CAPACITY |
|-------------|--------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| County Road | 1.8000             | NONE             | 1.8000          | 1.850                   |
|             | 2.2500             | NONE             | 2.2500          |                         |
| Library     | .5000              | NONE             | .5000           | .350                    |
| Fire        | .5000              | NONE             | .5000           |                         |
| Hospital    | .5000              | NONE             | .5000           |                         |
| Fire        | .2000              | NONE             | .2000           | .150                    |
| Cemetery    | .1125              | .4138            | .0466           |                         |
|             | .2500              | .4138            | .1034           |                         |
| Totals      | 6.1125             |                  | 5.90            |                         |

1. Beginning with the limit of \$5.90, subtract the original certified levy rates for the county and county road taxing districts leaving \$1.85 available for the remaining districts.

2. Subtract the total of the levy rates for each district within the next tier: The library's \$.50, the fire district's \$.50 and the hospital's \$.50 = \$1.50, which leaves \$.35 available for the remaining districts.

3. Subtract the fire district's additional \$.20 levy rate, which leaves \$.15 available for the remaining districts.

4. The remaining \$.15 must be shared by the cemetery and the hospital districts within the next tier of levies. The cemetery district originally sought to levy \$.1125 and the hospital district sought to levy \$.25. The proration factor is arrived at by dividing the amount available (\$.15) by the original levy rates (\$.3625) requested within that tier resulting in a proration factor of .4138. And finally, the original levy rates in this tier of \$.1125 and \$.25 for the cemetery and hospital respectively are multiplied by the proration factor.

AMENDATORY SECTION (Amending WSR 14-14-023, filed 6/23/14, effective 7/24/14)

**WAC 458-19-075 Constitutional one percent limit calculation.** (1) **Introduction.** The total amount of all regular property tax levies that can be applied against taxable property is limited to one percent of the true and fair value of the property in money. The one percent limit is stated in Article VII, section 2 of the state Constitution and the enabling statute, RCW 84.52.050. The constitutional one percent limit is based upon the amount of taxes actually levied on the true and fair value of the property, not the dollar rate used in computing property taxes. This section explains how to determine if the constitutional one percent limit is being exceeded and the sequence in which levy rates will be reduced or eliminated in accordance with RCW 84.52.010 if the constitutional one percent limit is exceeded. The constitutional one percent calculation is made after the assessor ensures that the \$5.90 statutory aggregate dollar rate limit is not exceeded.

(2) **Preliminary calculations.** After prorationing under RCW 84.52.043 (the five dollar and ninety cent per thousand dollars of assessed value limit) has occurred, make the following calculations to determine if the constitutional one percent limit is being exceeded:

(a) First, add all the regular levy rates, except the rates for port and public utility districts, in the tax code area, to arrive at a combined levy rate for that tax code area. "Regular levy rates" in this context means the levy rates that remain after prorationing under RCW 84.52.043 has occurred. The levy rates for port and public utility districts are not included in this computation because they are not subject to the constitutional one percent limit. The rates for the following regular levies are used to calculate the combined levy rate of any particular tax code area:

- (i) The local rate for the state levy;
- (ii) Levies by or for county ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130;
- (iii) Levies for acquiring conservation futures under RCW 84.34.230;
- (iv) Levies for emergency medical care or emergency medical services under RCW 84.52.069;

(v) Levies for financing affordable housing for very low-income households under RCW 84.52.105;

(vi) The portion of metropolitan park district levies protected under RCW 84.52.120;

(vii) The portion of fire protection district levies protected under RCW 84.52.125;

(viii) Levies for criminal justice purposes under RCW 84.52.135;

(ix) Levies for transit-related purposes by a county with a population of one million five hundred thousand or more under RCW 84.52.140; ~~(and)~~

(x) The protected portion of the levies imposed under RCW 86.15.160 by flood control zone districts in a county with a population of seven hundred seventy-five thousand or more that are coextensive with a county; and

(xi) Levies imposed, if any, by a regional transit authority under RCW 81.104.175.

(b) Second, divide ten dollars by the higher of the real or personal property ratio of the county for the assessment year in which the levy is made to determine the maximum effective levy rate. If the combined levy rate exceeds the maximum effective levy rate, then the individual levy rates must be reduced or eliminated until the combined levy rate is equal to the maximum effective levy rate.

(3) **Prorationing - Constitutional one percent limit.** RCW 84.52.010 sets forth the prorationing order in which levy rates are to be reduced or eliminated when the constitutional one percent limit is exceeded.

As opposed to the order contained in RCW 84.52.010, which lists the taxing districts that are the first to have their levy rates reduced or eliminated, this section is written in reverse order; that is, it lists the taxing districts that must be first either fully or partially funded. If the constitutional one percent limit is exceeded, then the levy rates for taxing districts within a particular tier must be reduced or eliminated on a pro rata basis.

If the constitutional one percent limit is exceeded after performing the preliminary calculations described in subsection (2) of this section, the following levies must be reduced or eliminated until the combined levy rate no longer exceeds the maximum effective levy rate:

(a) Step one: Subtract the levy rate for the state for the support of common schools from the effective rate limit;

(b) Step two: Subtract the levy rates for the county, county road district, regional transit authority, and for city or town purposes;

(c) Step three: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates for fire protection districts under RCW 52.16.130, regional fire protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140 (1)(a), library districts under RCW 27.12.-050 and 27.12.150, the first fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for metropolitan park districts created before January 1, 2002, under RCW 35.61.210, and the first fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value for public hospital districts under RCW 70.44.060(6).

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance



is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step four.

(d) Step four: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates for fire protection districts under RCW 52.16.-140 and 52.16.160, and regional fire protection service authorities under RCW 52.26.140 (1)(b) and (c).

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step five.

(e) Step five: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate for the first fifty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value of metropolitan park districts created on or after January 1, 2002, under RCW 35.61.210.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levy is reduced to the remaining balance from step four. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step six.

(f) Step six: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates for all other junior taxing districts if those levies are not listed in steps three through five or steps seven through ~~(sixteen)~~ seventeen of this subsection.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step seven.

(g) Step seven: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate for flood control zone districts other than the portion of a levy protected under RCW 84.52.815.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levy is reduced to the remaining balance in step six. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step eight.

(h) Step eight: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates for city transportation authorities under RCW 35.95A.100, park and recreation service areas under RCW 36.68.525, park and recreation districts under RCW 36.69.-145, and cultural arts, stadium, and convention districts under RCW 67.38.130.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step nine.

(i) Step nine: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy ~~((rate for))~~ imposed, if any, for cultural access programs under RCW 36.160.080.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity from any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, the levy is reduced to the remaining balance in step eight. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed to step ten.

(j) Step ten: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate for the first thirty cents per thousand dollars for emergency medical care or emergency medical services under RCW 84.52.069.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levy is reduced to the remaining balance in step ~~((eight))~~ nine. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((ten))~~ eleven.

~~((j))~~ (k) Step ((ten)) eleven: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates for levies used for acquiring conservation futures under RCW 84.34.230, financing affordable housing for very low-income households under RCW 84.52.105, and any portion of a levy rate for emergency medical care or emergency medical services under RCW 84.52.069 in excess of thirty cents per thousand dollars of assessed value.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levies within this tier must be reduced on a pro rata basis until the balance is zero. After prorationing, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((eleven))~~ twelve.

~~((k))~~ (l) Step ~~((eleven))~~ twelve: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the portion of the levy by a metropolitan park district with a population of one hundred fifty thousand or more that is protected under RCW 84.52.120.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the portion of the levy within this tier must be reduced to the remaining balance in step ~~((ten))~~ eleven. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((twelve))~~ thirteen.

~~((h))~~ (m) Step ~~((twelve))~~ thirteen: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rates for county ferry districts under RCW 36.54.130.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levy is reduced to the remaining balance in step ~~((eleven))~~ twelve. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((thirteen))~~ fourteen.

~~((m))~~ (n) Step ~~((thirteen))~~ fourteen: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate for criminal justice purposes imposed under RCW 84.52.135.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levy is reduced to the remaining balance in step ~~((twelve))~~ thirteen. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((fourteen))~~ fifteen.

~~((n))~~ (o) Step ~~((fourteen))~~ fifteen: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate for fire protection districts protected under RCW 84.52.125.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the portion of the levy within this tier must be reduced to the remaining balance in step ~~((thirteen))~~ fourteen. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((fifteen))~~ sixteen.

~~((o))~~ (p) Step ~~((fifteen))~~ sixteen: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the levy rate for transit-related purposes by a county under RCW 84.52.140.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the levy is reduced to the remaining balance in step ~~((fourteen))~~ fifteen. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((sixteen))~~ seventeen.

~~((p))~~ (q) Step ~~((sixteen))~~ seventeen: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the protected portion of the levy imposed under RCW 86.15.160 by a flood control zone district in a county with a population of seven hundred seventy-five thousand or more that is coextensive with a county.

(i) If the balance is zero, there is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing districts at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(ii) If the balance is less than zero, then the portion of the levy within this tier must be reduced to the remaining balance in step ~~((fifteen))~~ sixteen. There is no remaining levy capacity for any other junior taxing district at a lower tier and their levies, if any, must be eliminated.

(iii) If the remaining balance is greater than zero, this amount is available to the remaining junior taxing districts at a lower tier and the assessor should proceed on to step ~~((seventeen))~~ eighteen.

~~((q))~~ (r) Step ~~((seventeen))~~ eighteen: Subtract from the remaining levy capacity the portion of the levy by a metropolitan park district that has a population of less than one hundred fifty thousand and is located in a county with a population of one million five hundred thousand or more that is protected under RCW 84.52.120 until the remaining levy capacity equals zero.